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THE TIMES

No 61,687 | FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11 1983 | 20p

THE TIMES

Saturday

10 of the best
...in the Saturday Section on:
Snow business
Four pages of the latest news and views on skiing:
Present...
Values: How to find those special presents
...and past
The locked diaries of Bertrand Russell.



Anthony Quinton on the early life of the philosopher
Try...
David Hands previews Scotland's rugby match against the All Blacks at Murrayfield
...harder
Big business and the military in Honduras call on Kissinger for an armed solution for Central America

Syrians braced for attack after firing on US jets

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The new American naval task force, led by the aircraft carrier Independence, steamed into Lebanese territorial waters last night as the Syrian Army in Lebanon braced itself for a possible attack by United States jets after a day of intense air activity.

It began in an unprecedented and ominous confrontation in the skies over northern Lebanon just after dawn, when Syrian anti-aircraft guns opened fire on four American F14 Tomcat fighter-interceptors on an unexplained "reconnaissance" mission in the northern Bekaa Valley. Last night United States jets were again racing at low level across Beirut toards the central mountains.

Apparently fearing an imminent United States attack on Syrian forces, Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, made a hurried, unpublicised trip to Moscow during the morning while American and Israeli jets, apparently acting in cooperation, flew separate reconnaissance missions over Mount Lebanon and the Sannine Heights east of Beirut.

Confirming that United States aircraft were shot at by Syrian ground defences, spokesmen in Washington did not explain why their aircraft – officially operating with the four-nation multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut – should be flying so far from the capital, but Syrian state radio referred to the F14s as "enemy planes" and said they had been "driven off" by Syria's air defence system.

During the morning, officers in the multinational force reported seeing a French Super-Etendard jet flying over Beirut chased by two heat-seeking Sam-7 missiles, rockets fired from hand-held launchers and apparently directed at the aircraft from the Bourj el-Barajneh suburb of the capital controlled by Shia Muslim militias.

The French contingent of the multinational force refused to *confirm or deny that anything* had happened, on the ground that it never discussed "reconaissance flights", though radio traffic between French and American aircraft during the morning suggested some incident had occurred over Beirut.

"Electronic traffic" – as the multinational force officers inevitably call air-to-ground radio contacts – became so heavy at 11.30am that it seemed likely the Americans were preparing some form of air operation. In the early afternoon, the jets that had been criss-crossing the city at low altitude returned to their aricraft carriers, but they were back again after dark.

The right-wing Phalangist "Voice of Lebanon" radio claimed yesterday that the Americans had observed Syrian troops bringing their new Soviet-made ground-to-ground SS21 missiles onto the eastern slopes of the Sannine Heights. While this report is almost certainly nonsense, the Syrians have been bringing more field atrillery onto the lower slopes of the mountains, as well as anti-aircraft guns.

American diplomats in Beirut admit that the arrival of the new task force, which has temporarily brought together an armada of 29 US warships off Beirut, represents a "very dynamic period" in Lebanon. But they will say no more than that.

Fearful that the Americans really intend to take some form of military revenge for the suicide bombing of their Marine headquarters in Beirut last month, and that this would destroy the results of last week's reconciliation conference in Geneva, President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon is urgently seeking an audience with President Reagan.

The Americans, however, may be less than sympathetic, since they have realized the degree to which the conference delegates are already breaking the promises made in Geneva.

Mr Fady Frem, the Phalangist militia commander, for example, has disputed the conference's agreement that Lebanon has an "Arab identity". The Druze are already accusing the Phalange of going back on their commitment, and for two days fierce artillery bombardments have been going on between the two sides south of Aley.

ON PAGE SIX

Truce collapses
Israel call-up ends
Photographs

Concorde may fly to Miami

British Airways has filed a request with the US Federal Aviation Administration to extend Concorde supersonic flights to Miami.

The airline says it has not yet decided whether to use the aircraft to serve Miami, but flights could begin by next spring

Falklands ban

The United States will not supply Argentina with sophisticated weapons that could be used to invade the Falklands once the ban on American arms is lifted, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told journalists.

Liberal dispute

After points of order in the Commons, the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, declined to comment on an article in *The Times* by Mr Russell Johnson, the Liberal MP, calling for more time for Liberal speakers in parliamentary debates

Parliamentary report, page 4

Lloyd's chief

Mr Peter North Miller, a Lloyd's broker, has been elected to succeed Sir Peter Green as chairman of the London insurance market **Page 17**

Synod accepts

New procedures for deciding which divorced people should be allowed remarriage in church have been accepted by the General Synod of the Church of England **Page 3**

Labour choice

Mr Norman Hogg, MP for *Cumbernauld and Kilsyth*, has become Labour's deputy chief whip. He defeated Mr Don Concannon, MP for Mansfield, by 117 votes to 79 in a second ballot.

Muzorewa eats

Bishop Abel Muzorewa has ended his hunger strike after eight days, according to the Zimbabwe Government.

Wembley plan

A £300m plan for the development of the Wembley Stadium site, which covers 80 acres in north London, will include a new multi-purpose arena **Page 2**

Connors fined

Jimmy Connors won his match against Hank Pfister in the Benson & Hedges championships at Wembley, bur lost financially when he was fined £648 for audible and visual obscenities **Page 22**

Gas price rise to help Treasury

By Julian Haviland and David Young

Gas prices are expected to rise by an average of five per cent next spring as a result of decisions in Cabinet yesterday to keep total public expenditure next year at the plained level of £126,400m.

But electricity prices, which have been frozen since April 1982, are not expected to rise.

Ministers are understood to have decided that savings of between £200m and £300m are to be found from the electricity industry next year by adjusting external financing limits to require extra repayments to the Treasury.

This could be met by raising tariffs by between 2½ and 3 per cent, but Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has resisted price increases and the savings are to be found in other ways.

The argument over energy prices, which was conducted yesterday in Mr Walker's absence in China, occupied much of the Cabinet meeting, which lasted rather more than two hours. But the outcome was overall agreement on next year's programmes, with the unexpected satisfaction for the Chancellor of the Exchequer of leaving the large £3,000m contingency reserve intact.

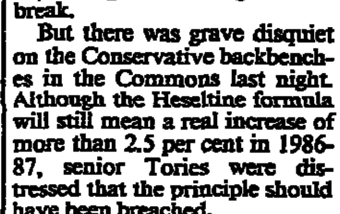
It was said afterwards that only minor points remained to be settled.

The main adjustments to next year's spending programmes will be published when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, makes his autumn statement to the Commons next Thursday.

The Cabinet's final decisions yesterday amounted to endorsement of the arbitration between the Treasury and the spending departments which has been conducted by the "star chamber" set up last month, with Lord Whitelaw in the chair.

Mr Walker, who was represented yesterday by his Minister of State, Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, appears to have succeeded only partially in maintaining the principle that nationalised industry prices should not be regarded by the Treasury as just another tax.

He has avoided an increase in electricity prices, and delayed till next year the rise in the gas price which will also be slightly below the rate of inflation. But although the rising cost of gas production might justify an increase, Mr Lawson's main argument yesterday is said to have been that he needed the revenue.



The National Gas Consumers' Council expressed "deep concern" that domestic and industrial gas prices were being forced up by the Treasury above the immediate needs of the industry itself. "We are completely oppoosed to the use of British Gas as a milch cow", Mrs Sheila Black, the council's chairman, said.

The new gas price increase is expected to add about £15 to the average annual bill of a family whose house is heated by gas central heating.

Cabinet ends 3% Nato cash link

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

The Government's commitment to increase defence spending in line with the Nato target of 3 per cent a year, in real terms, will lapse in 1986, the Cabinet agreed yesterday.

Some of the Cabinet's spending hawks were last night expressing jubilation that the link had finally been snapped.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, will now work on a changed basis of calculation for next year's Defence Estimates (1984-85), designed to disguise the break.

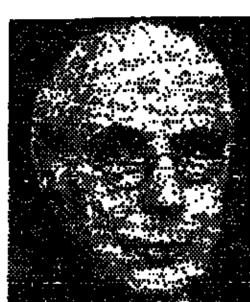
But there was grave disquiet on the Conservative backbenches in the Commons last night. Although the Heseltine formula will still mean a real increase of more than 2.5 per cent in 1986-87, senior Tories were distressed that the principle should have been breached.

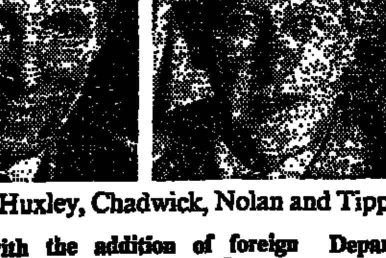
One representative backbench source said that he would regret any break in the commitment, adding that it would be "daft" to announce it so far in advance. Another MP with strong interest in defence said that he would regard any such decision as a "thunderbolt.

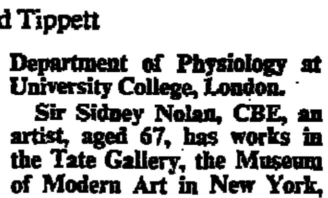
A more seasoned parliamentary observer commented that Mr Heseltine would be forced into "a salami-slicing exercise on the equipment programme".

Nevertheless, the MPs who support the Treasury demands for economy were arguing that a 3 per cent real increase would have been all very well provided the economy was growing at the same rate. Given that Nato allies had failed to reach the target, and Germany was cited as a case in point it would be unreasonable to expect the UK to maintain that leval of spending

Four join Order of Merit







New members: Huxley, Chadwick, Nolan and Tippett

By Thomson Prentice

The Queen has appointed the Rev Professor Owen Chadwick, Sir Andrew Huxley, Sir Sidney Nolan and Sir Michael Tippett, members of the Order of Merit.

The Order, instituted in 1902, is designed as a special distinction for eminent men and women and appointments are in the Queen's personal gift. She does not require ministerial advice.

The Order is limited to 24 members and the Sovereign with the addition of foreign honorary members. Present members include Mr Harold Macmillan, Henry Moore, Lord Olivier and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC.

Professor Chadwick, KBE, aged 67, is Master of Selwyn College, Cambridge, Regius Professor of Modern History and president of the British Academy.

Sir Andrew Huxley, aged 66, is president of the Royal Society, and is Royal Society Research Professor in the Department of Physiology at University College, London.

Sir Sidney Nolan, CBE, an artist, aged 67, has works in the Tate Gallery, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and galleries in his native Australia.

Sir Michael Tippett, CH, CBE, aged 78, is a composer of symphonies, operas and concertos. His First Symphony was performed in 1945. His Symphony Number Four in 1977 and his Triple Concerto in 1979.

Britain's firmest friend in Africa



Conversation piece: The Queen, President Moi and tribal dancers at Nairobi airport yesterday.

Kenya welcomes the Queen with 'stupendous' crowds

From Alan Hamilton, Nairobi

He had never, the Kenyan chief of protocol conceded, seen a crowd like it. Even a Buckingham Palace official, who has seen a crowd or two in his time, was moved to the term "stupendous".

An estimated half-million people lined the eight-mile route from Jomo Kenyatta Airport to Nairobi yesterday to witness the passage of the Queen on her first full state visit to Kenya since the tidings of her accession were brought to her here 31 years ago.

After an overnight stop in Cyprus, the British Airways TriStar, "The Astral Rose", touched down at 3.50 pm and the Queen, dressed in a sunburst of pale yellow, emerged to be greeted by President Daniel Arap Moi, secure in his position as Head of State after the recent general election returned him for a third term.

The Queen's presence repays a state visit to London by President Moi in 1979, and is belated recognition of a country which survived accusations of being the traitor of the Commonwealth at the time of the Mau Mau emergency to become Britain's most favoured friend in Africa.

The visit also lays to rest the moment of bad blood last year when Kenya briefly harboured a suspicion that Britain was behind the abortive coup to oust President Moi from the leadership of his one-party democracy.

It was the Duke of Edinburgh who came to hand over the seals of the constitution at independence in 1963. The Queen paid a brief personal call on President Kenyatta here in 1972, but it was not a full-blown state occasion.

Where Jomo carried a fly-whisk, President Moi carries a small ornamental white baton. He is a heavily-built, grey-suited man who used to be a schoolmaster. He ushered the Queen and the Duke to the airport parade ground to meet the 25 members of his new Cabinet, including Mr Paul Ngei, the Minister for Lands, who the Birish imprisoned with Kenyatta in 1953.

Amid extrmemely tight but discreet security, the Queen inspected an immaculate scarlet guard of honour of the 7th African rifles, and smiled broadly with patent delight at the gyrations of 300 technicolour tribal dancers, none of them bare-breasted as in olden times.

Led by two crawling lorry-loads of photographers, the Queen's motorcade then headed into the city through the dusty bushland. The two heads of state, smiling broadly, poked their heads through the sunshine roof of the Mercedes limousine and waved.

In the countryside the crowds chanted *Nyayo*, the political slogan of President Moi's Kenya African National Union, and the Swahili word for footsteps. "In the footsteps of Kenyatta, peace, love and unity."

As the motorcade approached the city, the more sophisticated crowds, fluttering their paper flags more discreetly, merely waved and applauded. The relative silence was initially unnerving, but, Kenyan officials assured the Royal party, it was a mark of the highest respect.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh drove into State House, the President's official residence, where they signed the visitors' book and where, later in the evening, President Moi gave a banquet in their honour.

The Kenyan government, overburdened with arrangements and deeply conscious of security, made the first official announcement of the visit less than 24 hours before the Queen's arrival. But stories had been appearing in the local press for weeks, and the radio this week dropped an enormous hint by broadcasting a documentary on the British monarchy.

Everyone was therefore aware of the visit, and the size of the crowds testified not only to their admiration for the Great White Queen, but also to the fact that Kenya is burdened with the highest birthrate in the world.

IRA apologises

The Provisional IRA has admitted killing the wrong man in a betting shop after mistaking him for an officer of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Special Branch. Sean McShane was shot in the head at pointblank range at Newry, County Down, last month, because he bore a striking resemblance to the police officer, it said.

Joint force for Grenada ruled out by Ramphal

By David Cross

Mr Sonny Ramphal, the Comonwealth Secretary-General, yesterday ruled out any prospect of the Commonwealth sending a security force to Grenada in the immediate future.

"We are not on the point of sending anything", Mr Ramphal, who has just returned from talks in New York with Commonwealth representatives told diplomatic writers in London. At this delicate stage in the development of Grenada, when a caretaker administration was being set up, the main task confronting the Commonwealth was to respond to the wishes of the Grenadian authorities.

With the announcement of the formation of a caaretaker administration by Sir Paul Scoon, the Grenadian Governor-General, yesterday, the authorities in the island were reaching the point where they might be able to tell their Commonwealth partners what they needed interms of a security presence and reconstruction aid, Mr Ramphal added.

He hoped that in spite of "deep disquiet" among the overwhelming majority of Commonwealth member states about recent events in Grenada the topic would not dominate the forthcoming heads of government conference in Delhi. He did not think that

Continued on back page, col 1

News ban in Heineken kidnapping

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam

Dutch police and Heineken have acceded to the demand of the kidnappers of Mr Alfred Heineken, head of the brewery, to withhold further information from the press.

The demand was made in a letter which reached police in the Hague late on Wednesday night, after Mr Heineken, aged 60 and his chauffeur, Mr Ab Doderer, aged 57, were forced by three armed, masked men into a van

The letter also said the brewery would be "contacted later", presumably to state terms for the release of the two men. The brewery has said it is prepared to pay a ransom. It has asked the police, at the request of the families of the two men, to act with the "greatest reticence".

It is unclear whether the kidnappers are Dutch or foreign. Police described the abduction as highly professional. At the spot where the kidnappers switched vehicles, two bags were found, containing two Israeli Uzi sub-machine guns and ammunition.

Telecom men bow to court

By David Felton

The Post Office Engineering Union yesterday chose to obey an injunction halting industrial action against the private company, Mercury Communications, rather than risk being held in contempt of court after leaders had issued a warning that it could lead to their being "smashed" in the courts.

Letters went out last night to 300 branches from the union's conference in Blackpool instructing members to withdraw the blacking on inter-connexion between Mercury circuits and the British Telecom network after conference delegates drew back from mounting the first real challenge of the Government's employment legislation.

In another develoment, the future of 500 unemployed school leavers who were due to join youth trainingg schemes with British Telecom in January was thrown into doubt last night after the Union rejected calls that it should cooperate with the Government's £1,000m jobs scheme for young people.

Continued on back page, col 3

CND at Cenotaph

Six members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will be allowed to take part officially in the Remembrance Day march-past at the Cenotaph in London on Sunday. They are members of the recently formed Ex-Services CND and will march with their former regiments, wearing CND badges.

Approval has been granted by the Royal British Legion, which organizies the march of regimental associations and legion groups on behalf of the Home Office. A Legion spokesman said yesterday that each of the six who had applied to take part in the march had a right to do so as an ex-serviceman.

Their inclusion in the march was welcomed by CND. It demonstrated that CND was not hostile to the armed services

The Legion spokesman said that the march past "is an act of remembrance in which nuclear disarmement has no part at all."

Dual key, page 2

County court changes will increase bad debts, traders tell Hailsham

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has decided to go ahead with planned cuts in numbers of county court bailiffs and in their duties, which traders say will lead to a massive increase in bad debts and more expensive consumer credit.

Mr John Patrick, director of the Consumer Credit Trade Association, told *The Times* yesterday that the changes in county court rules would cost the retail trade as much as £15m to £20m a year in bad debts and could add £4 to each credit transaction. The figures were calculated from trials, by the association's members, of measures to be taken as the result of the Lord Chancellor's decision.

The county court rule committee, which meets today will draw up the necessary rule, an official of the Lord Chancellor's Department said.

Bailiffs' work will be cut by increasing the minimum level for a part warrant of execution from £15 to £5.

The warrant is issued by the court at the request of the creditor for part of the outstanding debt. Broadly speaking, it applies where a court has made an order for repayment by instalments. The amount for which the warrant is now issued cannot be less than one £50 instalments, now less than £15.

The new £50 minimum will reduce numbers of warrants issued. The 1,100 county court bailiffs are planned to be reduced by about one third.

Economies will also be made in serving of summonses. Instead of the plaintiff choosing how a summons can be served to notify the debtor of a claim, it will be served by a bailiff.

A deputation from the retail trade, credit business and consumer interests has failed to convince the Lord Chancellor that, whereas people may be able to pay instalments of £15, £50 will be beyond many of them.

A trial by one company to measure the effect of using £50 warrants instead of £25 warrants, the average value now issued on its behalf, showed a big increase in failure to retrieve debts. The proportion of abortive warrants increased from 40 per cent to 75 per cent.

It will still be open to the bailiff to remove goods to cover the value of the warrant, but the retail trade argues that to satisfy a £50 warrant, goods of several hundred pounds may have to be seized, increasing distress.

The argument put to the Lord Chancellor was that, as plaintiffs would have to apply through the courts for an attachment of earnings order, the cost of the extra work would outweigh the savings to be made in other directions. The caseload would grow and there would be an increase in the number of hearings. The retail trade and credit organizations say that delays of four to six months to get a hearing and an effective order are usual.

The victors: The six boys after their High Court appearance in London yesterday (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

Boys win reprieve for home

By a Staff Reporter

Six teenage boys from "deprived and unstable" backgrounds won a reprieve in the High Court yesterday for a children's home they say has given them a better chance in life.

Mr Justice McCulloch ruled that Solihull council in the West Midlands must think again about the closure date for the 18-bed home, Richmond House. But he made no ruling on the council's earlier decision that the home would have to close at some time.

When councillors decided that the home should close in September they should have considered the welfare of each individual child. But he was satisfied they did not. That decision must be quashed.

The boys earlier won a temporary order keeping the home open pending the outcome of yesterday's hearing.

The judge said the council might now decide to close another home instead.

The boys' counsel, Lord Gifford, QC, told the judge yesterday that they had had deprived and unstable lives. At Richmond House they found stability and they feel they have been given a chance to become decent citizens.

He said the decision to close the home came after a conflict "between those in the council who wanted to cut costs and those who wanted to continue the fine work done by this home."

All six boys were present in court yesterday. One of them Jonathan Saville aged 17, said afterwards: "I am very happy that we hove won a reprieve for the home. Maybe now the council will think twice before closing it down. The decision means that the lives of the boys there may now become a bit more stable.

"I think it is wrong for them to close the home, because it means that kids who have been in trouble and come onto care will have to go to homes that cannot cater for their needs and will probably get back into trouble again.

"It was out own decision to take court action after we had a children's meeting, and I would urge any children in a similar situation to fight it."

£300m plan for new Wembley complex

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

A £300m plan for development at the Wembley Stadium site, which covers 80 acres including the hallowed green turf at its centre, was announced yesterday by the British Electric Traction Company.

BET is to go into partnership with a specially-formed consortium which intends to spend £300m over the next 10 years. Central to the consortium's plans is a new, Multi-purpose indoor arena incorporating the latest technological advances and intended to be the best in the world.

An official of the Sports Council said that Wembley had long been its preferred site for a national indoor arena, and if the council now make a definite decision in favour of Wembley it would be prepared to make a substanial investment.

A feasibility study will be undertaken immediately after the agreements of the new partnership have been completed in January. A programme of refurbishment for the existing stadium has already been agreed with the Football Association and is in progress.

Under the new ownership, no changes in the management and staff at Wembley are expected and all the activities of Wembley Stadium, itself a listed building, will continue without interruption. Extra staff will be employed as the developments proceed, and it is intended to have a wider range of activities and events.

BET's subsidiary, BET Leisure Holdings Ltd, yesterday signed heads of agreement, subject to contract, with the consortium, which is led by Arena Ltd.

Arena Ltd was formed specifically for the purpose, and its shareholders include Sir Hugh Willatt, Lord Marshall of Leeds, Mr John Silkin, the Labour MP, whose firm of solicitors is advising the consortium, Mr Logan Gourlay, Mr Raymund Doyle, Mr Frederick Khan, Mr Benjamin Fisz and, from the United States, Mr Iving Mitchell Felt.

Standard Chartered Merchant Bank, which has been appointeed corporate finance adviser to Arena, and other substantial corporate shareholders, have been invited to join the consortium. On completion of the agreement, BET will receive £25m in cash, as well as a 50 per cent share in all the profits of the planned redevelopment, and will retain 49 per cent of the equity of Wembley Stadium Ltd.

Last year the Wembley Stadium company generated profits of just under £2m before tax.

Record tax burden under Tory rule

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The burden of taxes in Britain has risen steeply to record heights since the Government took office in 1979, according to official figures released yesterday.

Taxes as a proportion of total economic output rose from 39.6 per cent in 1979 to 45.7 per cent in 1982. That compares with a peak of 40.2 per cent in 1975 under the previous Labour government and 38.2 per cent in its last year of office in 1978.

The figures, published in the October issue of *Economic Trends*, show that all forms of taxes except those on capital took a bigger share. Taxes on income rose from 14.7 per cent of economic output in 1979 to 17.2 per cent in 1982, taxes on spending (including rates from 17.5 per cent to 20.1 per cent and national insurance contributions from 6.8 per cent to 7.7 per cent.

The Government has raised taxes to reduce its borrowing in the face of increased public spending, at a time when the economy has shrunk. These figures will give added impetus to the Treasury's campaign to keep public spending under tight control, to leave room for tax cuts before the next election.

TAXES AS PROPORTION OF NATIONAL OUTPUT*

1960-72	36.6
1973	36.5
1974	39.2
1975	40.2
1976	39.1
1877	39.6
1978	38.2
1979	39.6
1980	41.9
1981	44.4
1982	45.7

*gross national product at factor cost
Source: *Economic Trends*

NHS 'must prune back staff'

By Nicholas Timmins

The National Health Service should be much more willing to get rid of people who do not come up to scratch, Mr Michael Carlisle, the chairman of the Trent Regional Health Authority said yesterday.

Mr Carlisle said leadership and motivation were crucial in the health service, and it was people who made it work.

"If they do not perform, or prove ineffective, then we should tell them so, and I do feel that there is more diffidence in doing that in the NHS than elsewhere. If they cannot be trained or improved they must be replaced

Mr Carlisle was speaking at a conference of the Association of Health Service Treasurers at which Mr Roy Griffiths, the deputy chairman and managing director of Sainsbury's, was given a generally warm reception for his report on revamping health service management.

Mr Griffiths, who is to join the new health service supervisory board his recommendations created, said he hoped the management board that would operate beneath it would provide the service with an "umbrella" to protect it against sudden and unthought-out change.

Police make armed raids in Devon

A tip-off to police that forged banknotes and firearms with an Irish terrorist connexion had been hidden in Devon and Cornwall led to raids yesterday by 200 police officers, some of them armed. A statement by Devon and Cornwall police last night said that some items of property had been siezed

It is understood that nothing was found that substantiated the tip-off which activated the operation

New LWT chief

Mr Brian Tesler, aged 54, is to succeed Mr John Freeman as chairman of London Weekend Television in January. Mr Tesler is deputy chairman and managing director. Mr Freeman has been chairman since 1971. Mr Christopher Bland will succeed him as chairman of LWT (Holdings).

Struck off

Mr Kewal Krishan Abrol, aged 55, a dentist, of Gravelly Hill North, Erdington, Birmingham, whose conviction for the manslaughter of a woman patient was quashed by the Court of Appeal, was ordered yesterday to be struck off the dental register.

Government urged to close MSC

By Our Labour Editor

The Manpower Services Commission, which has an annual budget of more than £1bn and employs 24,000 people, should be wound up, a free enterprise pressure group urged yesterday.

In a report on employment policy, the Adam Smith Institute recommended that government regulation of the labour market should be swept away and strikes in essential public services should be banned.

The MSC, 10 years old in 1984, is the chief target of the institute's *Omega Report*, which says that most of the commission's activities "could be immediately dispensed with", starting with the future of 800 high street Jobcentres.

"The private sector would expand to fill the gap very quickly

Correction

In a report yesterday on the Mosley papers we wrongly ascribed to Lord Longford a remark linking his conversion to socialism and Roman Catholicism to violence he experienced at a fascist meeting in Oxford in 1936. Lord Longford wishes to point out that it helped point him towards socialism but had nothing to do with his change of religious beliefs.

Fleet Street rebels vote to defy TUC

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A new labour relations crisis in Fleet Street came closer yesterday when "dissident" electricians rejected the advice of the TUC to rejoin the union they quit several months ago.

Nearly 500 former members of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union voted, with only two against, to stay out of the Eetpu and seek recognition from newspaper publishers.

The national executive of the print union Sogat '82 has bowed to a TUC instruction to expel the breakaway electricians, but they remain members of the London machine branch.

Mr Sean Geraghty, their leader, said last night: "We will be going after the employers for recognition."

News of the decision filtered through to officials of the Eetpu in Blackpool where they are holding a rules revision conference. The executive officer, Mr Tom Rice, warned that the electricians' union would seek to enforce its closed shop agreement with the Newspaper Publishers' Association.

The "official" electricians' union branch, which has retained some members on national newspapers, is to meet at the weekend to decide what sanctions to use

● Leaders of the electricians' union meeting in Blackpool, yesterday fended off attempts by left-wingers to get the ban on communists holding office lifted.

New threat claimed to Green Belt land

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Evidence that a consortium of the country's largest construction companies are intending to develop land in the open countryside, perhaps in the Green Belt, was presented to Conservative MPs last night by Mr Robin Grove-White, director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

It is the latest shot in the CPRE's campaign against the Government's proposals, contained in draft circulars on land for housing and Green Belt, which it believes would actively encourage more breaches in the countryside.

The CPRE argues that Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has designed the circulars to give the builders a much freer rein to go where they wish, "which will usually mean into our unspoilt countryside".

The evidence, given to the backbench Conservative MP's enviornment committee, came in a letter from Consortium Developments, which represents some of the biggest building companies, to a property owner in the Hart district area of rural Hampshire. It said that several locations in the South-east could accommodate a new community, each averaging about 700 acres.

Mr R. A. J. Bennett, the executive director of Consortium Developments, described the CPRE's use of the letter as "hysterical".

Slow show: David Bellamy, the conservationist, with a 20- year-old giant tortoise called Andronicus at the Aldabra Island exhibition at the Commonwealth Institute which Mr Bellamy opened yesterday. (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

Heathrow threat by BCal

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

Some charter flights may have to be moved from Gatwick to Stansted if British Caledonian succeeds in taking routes and aircraft away from state-owned British Airways, the British Airports Authority said yesterday.

But that would have far less impact on air traffic policy than British Caledonian's threat to transfer all its operations from Gatwick to Heathrow. The independent airline said last week it would take that action if it failed to persuade the Government to give it some of British Airways' assets before privatization.

Such a move would threaten to break the ceiling of 275,000 air traffic movements a year which the Government has set for Heathrow. The airport already handles 257,000 movements and if BCAl moved to Heathrow, other Gatwick-based airlines such as Cathay Pacific, Air New Zealand and Delta would undoubtedly put pressure on the Government to make similar transfers, adding up to 40,000 movements a year.

Heathrow is regarded as the most convenient airport

Mr Norman Payne, British Airports Authority chairman, announcing the half-year results yesterday, reported that a 23 per cent increase in pre-tax operating profit, from £50.3m to £60.9m, up to the end of September.

Heseltine admits 'dual key' on Lance missiles

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, admitted yesterday in a letter to Dr David Owen that there is "de facto" dual key control over the British-owned Lance battlefield missiles deployed in West Germany.

The letter immediately brought a renewed claim from the SDP leader that the Government was not acting in accordance with past precedent in its refusal of a dual-key mechanism for cruise missiles and that it was seeking to obscure the issues.

Mr Heseltine wrote to clarify remarks he had made in last week's Commons debate. He said that the Lance missile's nuclear warheads, in accordance with normal practice, remained under American custody, and that "hence there is a de facto form of dual key which depends on the physical separation of the missile and the warhead.

Dr Owen had said that there was a difference between launching a cruise missile from Britain, a nuclear weapon state, and a missile from the territory of a non-nuclear weapon state.

● Greenham Common peace campaigners will press again for an order restraining the Amerian Government from deploying cruise missiles in Britain when legal arguments open at the New York federal court on November 21 (Pat Healy writes).

Although the hearing will be confined to deciding whether the court has jurisdiction, Ms Helena Kennedy, the women's lawyer, is confident that much of the evidence compiled by 20 witnesses will be admissable.

It ranges from arguments about international law and conventions, to scientific and medical evidence on the effects of nuclear war.

Thatcher picks hardliner

By David Walker

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has appointed an economic hardliner and enthusiastic advocate of privatization to head her Downing Street Policy Unit. Mr John Redwood, aged 32, joined her private think tank last month on secondment from N. M. Rothschild and Co. He will take over in January on a salary of £27,000.

Mr Redwood, who succeeds Mr Ferdinand Mount, fought as Conservative candidate in the Peckham by-election in south-east London a year ago. He is a specialist on pensions.

His joining the unit prompted speculation that the Prime Minister is considering legislation on the transferability of pensions between private firms and possibly also on reviewing the earnings-related state pension scheme inherited from Labour in 1979.

Sale room

Record price for Rothko canvas in New York

By Huon Mallalieu

The autumn sales of contemporary art in New York continued on Wednesday at both Sotheby's and Christie's.

The main session at Sotheby's produced the most remarkable price, $1,815,000 (£1.2m) for Mark Rothko's vast canvas "Black, Maroons and White", an auction record not only for the artist, but for any contemporary painting. It was bought by one of the most enthusiastic collectors of recent years, the Tokyo businessman Shigeki Kameyama.

The Sotheby sale made a grand total of $4,574,350 or £3,049,566, with 29 per cent bought in.

Over two days and four sessions the Christie contemporary sale produced $5,988,741 (£3,992,494) with an average of about 12 per cent bought in. On Wednesday the top price was $187,000 (£124,667), paid by a New York dealer for a frentic Jackson Pollock, Number 12A, 1948: Yellow, Gray, Black"

In London yesterday Sotheby's offered a sale of good quality nineteenth and twentieth century ceramics, silver, sculpture, works of art and furniture, which produced £339,570 with just over 4 per cent failing to sell.

The most remarkable price, and indeed the most remarkable lot, came in the silver section. This was the £35,200 paid by Koopman, the London dealer, for a pair of wine coolers dating from about 1910.

Rampton nurses cleared

Three nurses, convicted 18 months ago of ill-treating patients at Rampton special hospital, were cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

The nurses, from Retford, Nottinghamshire, had worked on Dolphin ward between April, 1977 and March, 1979.

They were: Mr Brian Holmes, aged 36, a former senior staff nurse; Mr Allen Starkey, aged 28, a staff nurse, and Mr Robert Bagshaw, aged 31, an enrolled nurse. Mr Holmes and Mr Starkey received a nine-month suspended sentence, and Mr Bagshaw a three-month one.

The Court of Appeal heard that there had been no "identifiable logicality" in their convictions.

Radioactive waste put on council tip

By Mark Rosselli

Radioactive waste has been dumped several times at a public refuse site near a housing estate in Billingham, Cleveland. People living in the town are already angry at government plans to dispose of nuclear waste in a disused ICI mine 600ft below ground.

Yesterday Cleveland County Council admitted that eight loads of radioactive material from a Hartlepool factory had been buried at Cowpen Bewley tip by council workmen.

The statement was issued after Mr Gordon McClean, a local Transport and General Workers' Union official, claimed that the workmen involved were now "frantically worried" that they might have been contaminated.

Mr Frank Cook, Labour MP for Stockton North, said yesterday that the second dumping involved two 3-ton lorry loads of 30 metal drums. The drums were covered by a metre of household rubbish, and a bulldozer was driven over the rubbish to compact it. He added that the drums may have been ruptured

The council was asked to dipose of the waste believed to be contaminated overalls and cleaning matter, after a leak of radioactive material at Foster Wheeler Power Products in Hartlepool.

Yesterday, Mr Albert Hall, the assistant county surveyor and engineer, said that six loads of waste were buried during last January and February, and a further two loads were buried last September.

The council objected to the second dumping but was overruled by the Department of the Environment.

Mr Cook said: "This refuse tip is open to the public.

The Department of the Environment yesterday described the radioactivity of the waste as "extremely low-level".

● A request by Mr Cook yesterday for an emergency Commons debate on the dumping was rejected by the Speaker.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 850 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.00; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 55; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100

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Synod split on choice of divorcees who could remarry in church

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The new procedure for deciding which divorced people should be allowed remariage in church were found acceptable by the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday, but the synod was clearly divided.

Attempts by opponents of the principle or remarriage to halt the debate were thrice defeated by a ratio of about two to one, though clearly many of those in favour also had misgivings.

The synod spent five hours sifting through more than 30 amendments, but none of those which were passed fundamentally altered the procedure.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, expressed the feeling of many of the reluctant supporters if it when he said: "We have aroused so many expecations by what I believe were foolish decisions, that we must now go ahead and make it work, and make it work honestly."

The synod decided in July that the circumstances in which a couple should be allowed a second marriage should be identified by a three-tier system.

The local clergyman would investigate the facts and make recommendations; a panel of advisers would consider the papers in each case and give the bishop concerned its advice; and the bishop will make a ruling which will include the ending of any previous marriage vows.

Yesterday's debate was about the details of that process.

An alliance of "indissolublists" and "unworkablists" in the synod tried to have the debate adjourned indefinitely, and unsuccessfully opposed the commencement of the revision stage.

Later, however, Father Peter Geldard, of Canterbury, a spokesman for the group opposing remarriage in principle, indicated that they should accept the majority decision and try to make the system work. He asked whether bishops who oppose remarriage in principle would also observe the spirit of the procedure.

Canon Colin Craston, who was steering the item through its debate on behalf of the synod's standing committee, appealed to the House of Bishops at its next meeting to make a public declaration that they would accept the recommendations of the panels of advisers.

During the debate, the synod voted not to write a formal statement of the criteria on which decisions would be based, not to have any kind of appeal and not to give a couple the right to appear before the advisory panel in person.

One significant amendment, proposed by the Bishop of Knaresborough, the Rt Rev John Dennis, altered the way the procedure treats the ending of the previous marriage vow. The amendment was carried. It will now be regarded as a statement by the bishop to the effect that the previous vow is no longer binding, as it is "now incapable of fulfilment".

The procedure will next be considered by the House of Bishops, and be the subject of discussions between each bishop and his local clergy, before returning to the General Synod for approval in February and implementation by Easter, 1984.

Airport gun charge man remanded

A former US State Department foreign service officer accused of having a sub-machine gun and ammunition was further remanded in custody for a week at Horseferry Road Magistrates Court yesterday.

Walter Reed Martindale, aged 40, was charged on two counts under the Firearms Act, 1968, after a short stay in Britain by anti-terrorist squad detectives on October 26 at Gatwick airport.

He is accused of having a 9mm semi-automatic carbine Uzi sub-machine gun and a .38 Smith and Wesson revolver without holding a firearms certificate, between October 15 and 25, within the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court.

Martindale, described as an international trader, giving an adress in Alexandria, Virginia, in the United States, is similarly charged with having thirty-seven 9mm bullets and twenty .38 bullets.

Martindale did not apply for bail.

Court attack on social workers

A boy aged 15, who pleaded guilty at the Inner London Crown Court yesterday to setting fire to a lift, was ordered to be detained for 18 months. Judge McLean said he was forced to take that action because of the residential workers' strike.

"This is a disgraceful situation," the judge said. "The defendent is deprived of reports to which he is entitled by striking social workers who have directly flouted the guidelines set out by the Home Secretary."

He had been told that Southwark social workers were taking "selective strike action" which meant a number of reports were not being produced.

He felt the only way that he could force the social services to produce reports was to give a sentence that could be taken to the appeal court.

Computers switch on to sex

By Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

Sex and marriage have reached the home computer. Acorn, manufacturer of the BBC Micro, has launched two programs which, it claims, "could improve people's love lives and help to bring down the divorce rate".

One program, called "I Do", uses a questionaire written by Professor Hans Eysenck, the psycologist, to access the good and bad points of a couple's relationship and pin-point danger areas.

The computer fires 400 multiple-choice questions at each partner and then compares the answers. It calculates 11 separate "compatability scores", for subjects including "feminism and antifeminism" and "libido".

The other program, "The Dating Game", brings traditional computer dating techniques into the home. Its quesionaires were written by Dr Glen Wilson, a colleague of Professor Eysenck at London University's Institute of Psychiatry.

The program can match up to 40 people, heterosexual or homosexual and for each one rank the others in descending order of compatibility.

Mr Ivan Berg, whose firm Ivan Berg Software produced the programs for Acorn, had produced 5,000 of each program, which Acorn hopes to sell by Christmas at £12.65 a cassette.

The same software firm has also made 10,000 copies of a similar program, "Matchmaking", for the rival Commodore 64 home computer.

Dr Wilson and Mr Berg acknowledge that most cassettes will be bought for fun and to break the ice at adult parties.

GPs' free-spending 'over'

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Family doctors will have to demonstrate that they provide value for money and the days of uncontrolled financing of the family practitioner services are almost certainly over, the Royal College of General Practitioners was told yesterday.

With health ministers considering a report on whether cash limits can be applied to family doctors services, Dr Donald Acheson, chief medical officer designate at the Department of Health, told a conference held by the college in London that he believed "the period of uncontrolled financing (of family doctor services is almost certainly over".

The report, which is believed to argue that cash limits as such cannot be applied but that more careful evaluation is needed of trends in general practitioners' spending, would open up the debate on how family doctors spend money, Professor Alan Maynard, professor of economics at York university told the conference.

Doctors would be required to show that they are using efficently and ethically scarce resources, including drugs. With limited resources, doctors providing one form of treatment, effectively denied treatment to others. Choices had to be made in extreme cases about who would live.

Gillick fight goes to Commons

Hectic day in pill campaign

By Thomson Prentice
Medical Reporter

Mrs Victoria Gillick, who wants to stop doctors giving girls under 16 the pill without their parents' consent, last night checked into a London hotel room reserved for her by TV-am.

This morning she is due to appear on the company's breakfast programme and will later be interviewed by Jimmy Young on his radio show. Tonight, she travels to Norwich for an appearance on a BBC television programme.

Between her media engagements, at the House of Commons at 9am, she will meet Dr Gerard Vaughan, the former Minister for Health, whose constituents support her campaign to deny family doctors the ability to prescribe contraceptives to girls under 16 years of age without parental consent.

Dr Vaughan was Minister of Health in 1980 when the department's advice to doctors on prescribing contraceptives in such circumstances was last reviewed. Dr Vaughan saw no cause for substantial change. Mrs Gillick's view is that he is now opposing his own guidelines.

The guidelines are to be reviewed again, largely because of Mrs Gillick's campaign. More than 200 MPs have so far supported her but she has been unsuccessful in trying to have the guidelines declared unlawful and has now taken her case to the Court of Appeal.

The actions of Mrs Gillick, who has 10 children, have led to wide-ranging debates about teenagers sexual behaviour. Lord Devlin recently commented that her legal battle "may well be socially the most important to come before the courts in this decade".



Mrs Caroline Woodroffe: Pill preferable to abortion.

To many people, Mrs Gillick represents moral integrity and the defence of parents' rights to control their children. To the British Medical Association, family planning agencies and many individuals, her views and those of her supporters are seen as unrealistic, if not dangerous.

The Department of Health's advice to doctors is that they should try to persuade girls under 16 to tell their parents they want contraceptives, but the doctors can prescribe them without parent's knowledge if they deem it desirable.

The petitions supporting Mrs Gillick call for parents to be given a statutory right to be consulted by doctors.

Earlier this month, in a court case involving a girl said to have been on the pill since the age of 10, Judge Brian Gibbens, said: "The law has to protect precocious children from corrupting themselves". Publicity after the case led to increased support for Mrs Gillick's campaign. The girl was later said to be 13 when she sought the pill.

However, birth control agencies such as the charitable Brook Advisory Centres, one of which prescribed to the girl involved in the case, are apprenhensive about changes in the law or the guidlines.

Mrs Caroline Woodruffe, chairman of the Brook centres, said yesterrday: "People who sign this petition are trying to use dotors as some kind of agents of social control to try to stop young girls having sex.

"The idea that it is desirable for girls under 16 not to be given contraceptives is based o the spurious premise that this will stop them having sex. All that will happen is that there will instead be an increase in the numbers of abortions and unwanted pregnancies.

She added: "We would much prefer to give girls contraceptives than abortions".

Most of the girls under 16 who wanted contraceptives had good relationships with their parents. If the guidelines were changed, the minority of girls most in need of help would be deprived of it.

Since 1975, when the guidelines were first introduced, the rate of pregnancies among girls aged 15 has declined from 11.01 per 1,000 in England and Wales to 9.85 per 1,000 last year. About half of the girls under 16 who attended the centres did so with their parents consent.

The British Medical Association said yesterday: "We don't want to see either the law or the guidelines changed. We are talking about children who have already decided to exclude their parents from their actions. If they can no longer go to their doctor, what is to happen to them?"

Mrs Gillick said yesterday: "If I am unsuccessful, in the Court of Appeal, I will go to Parliament to seek a change in the law".



Bubbling with joy: Ruth Baillie (left) and her twin Sonia yesterday.

The girl who gave her twin new life

Doctors have just given Sonia Baillie, aged four, a clean bill of health after a successful bone marrow transplant from her identical twin, Ruth, in August last year to treat leuksemia.

Their mother, Mrs Olwen Baillie, said yesterday: "Even though she was only young, Ruth realised she could save her sister's life".

As the girls raced about the playground of Crosby Road School, Mrs Baillie, of Waterloo, Merseyside, said that they were both eager to make up for lost time.

A campaign has been launched to raise £100,000 for a bone marrow unit at the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

Census rejects view that England's trees are vanishing

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The accepted view among conservationists that Britain is steadily being denuded of trees is rejected in a census published yesterday by the Forestry Commission.

The census, which is claimed to be the most detailed since 1947 and has taken three years to complete, shows that the total area of woodland in England has risen since the Second World War by about 14 per cent, and in Wales by more than 40 per cent.

Although the increase is largely due to new conifer plantations, there has been no decline in the total area of broadleaved woodland. In England broadleaves still account for about 57 per cent of all woodlands.

The census findings are certain to be challenged by amenity groups. The Friends of the Earth said yesterday that it was still studying it, but that it already had doubts about the validity of some of the conclusions.

The commission's report observes that, although there has been a considerable loss of oak woodland, perhaps as much as 60,000 hectares in England in the last 30 years, it remains the dominant species. Moreover, more oak has been planted or regenerated in the last 10 years than any other species.

The character of broadleaved woodland has, however, gradually changed, largely as a result of the decline in the number of coppices and colonization by species such as sycamore, ash and birch.

About 45 per cent of the total woodland area in England consists of broadleaved high forest, compared with only 34 per cent in 1947. Nearly three-quarters of all broadleaved woodlands are in southern and eastern England.

In England conifer plantations have increased from about 165,000 hectares in 1947 to more than 380,000 hectares, and in Wales from 42,000 to about 168,000 hectares.

The volume of timber in English woodlands has almost doubled since 1945 to an estimated 111 million cubic metres, and in Wales it has trebled to 26 million cubic metres.

In spite of the loss of hedgerow elms, the number of non-woodland trees which form an important part of the lowland landscape is estimated to have risen by about 15 per cent since 1951.

Althouth Dutch elm disease has reduced the total timber volume of non-woodland trees, there appear to be enough young trees to maintain the current growing stock, the report concludes.

England, Census of Woodlands and Trees; Wales, Census of Woodland and Trees (Forestry Commission, 231 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh EH 12 7AT, £3 each).

Forest type by area and ownership – England and Wales

	'000 hectares			Per cent of total Woodland area
	Forestry Commission	Private	Total	
Managed				
Mainly coniferous	334.3	216.2	550.5	46.3
Mainly broadleaved	50.1	438.4	488.5	41.1
Other				
Coppice with standards	–	11.6	11.6	1.0
Coppice	1.0	26.5	27.5	2.3
Scrub	3.0	84.7	87.7	7.4
Cleared	5.4	17.2	22.6	1.9
Total	393.8	794.6	1,188.4	100.0

PARLIAMENT November 10 1983

Getting more time for the Liberal view

COMMONS

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill), in response to a series of points of order in the Commons about the article in *The Times* that day by Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L), calling on the Speaker to give the Liberal Party "its fair share in Parliament", said he had seen the article but had no intention of commenting either on it or Mr Johnston's conduct.

The article was mentioned during exchanges on future business and subsequently on points or order during which Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab) wondered if *The Times* had committed a breach of privilege in printing Mr Johnston's article.

Mr Russell Johnston said his intention in writing the article in *The Times* was to make it clear to the public that the part of the House which represented 25 per cent of the electorate and 7,500,000 people would indeed consider it profoundly unfair if there was not a willingness to call a member of the Social Democratic Party and a member of the Liberal Party in every debate.

In making this case Mr Speaker (he said) in no way whatever was I seeking to impugn your character or raise any doubt whatever about about your personal wish to be fair.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab), who raised the issue, said the article in *The Times* by Mr Johnston impinged on the Speaker's responsibility to the House. He asked the Speaker to give his views on the article in order to allay the fears of MPs.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said he had read the article with some care and it could be read another way. There were several instances where Mr Johnston was complaining about the way in which the SDP leader or leaders were able to catch the Speaker's eye as distinct from the Liberal MPs. He regarded it as a possible veiled attack upon the SDP by the Liberal Party. (Laughter) **Mr Johnston** said that on October 27, after the debate on the National Health Service in which no Liberal was called, the Speaker had said, in response to a point of order from Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L): "I am sure that the House would consider it extremely unfair if in every debate the Chair had to call a member from the Social Democratic Party and one from the Liberal Party." (Labour cheers)

After Mr Johnston had explained his intentions in writing the article, **Mr Alan Williams**, for the Opposition (Swansea West, Lab), said the Opposition deplored the fact that Mr Johnston had gone to the press to make what anyone who read it would see as an utterly ill-founded and unwarranted attack on the Speaker.

The Alliance not only seemed to want the penny in the bun, they wanted to keep it and eat it. Did not the article in *The Times* indicate quite clearly that in the last Parliament the Alliance was given extra time for extra seats which it obtained by the shabby process of political defection, a process which represented not one extra Liberal or SDP vote in the country?

Was it not utterly consistent with that precedent, which they welcomed at that time, that their now depleted ranks in the House should be reflected with depleted speaking time? On Mr Johnston's own figures in the article, with only 4 per cent of the seats, was not the Speaker in danger of being over-generous in giving them 5 per cent of the time – 25 per cent longer than they were entitled?

Mr Norman St John-Stevas (Chelmsford, C) said that irrespective of the merits of the article, was it not deplorable that an MP should write an article in a newspaper criticizing the Speaker? Criticism of the Speaker within the House was most severely limited and could not be made except by substantive motion.

How much more so must not criticism be limited to MPs writing in this newspaper, which had no connexion with the House? The Commons was the guardian of the rights and liberties of the people and that function could not be discharged unless there was a respect for the Chair outside the House.

During the election, most MPs were opposed by Alliance candidates, so described on the ballot paper. Some were Liberals, some Social Democrats – in his constituency he had forgotten which. (Laughter) They all stood as Alliance. Surely, if every party in the House were allowed to be able as of right to put forward front bench speakers in every debate, what with this and privy councillors, backbench MPs were going to be squeezed out.

It was essential that whoever else was involved in this controversy, it should not be the Speaker. The Leader of the House should take the initiative and discuss the matter with the various party leaders. That was the way to discuss it and not through the Chair, much less through the press.

Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab) said: *The Times* is forever telling us and the world it is the voice of the British establishment. Is there not a question whether *The Times* is involved in breach of privilege in actually printing what the MP wrote?

Is it not a fact that the SDP and Liberal Party are one party and therefore entitled to only one speaker in any debate?

Mr Weatherill said that discussions with the Leader of the Liberal Party (Mr David Steel) had been taking place.

● If required to adjudicate on an article in *The Times* by Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L) complaining about unfairness in the allocation of speaking time in the Commons, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, should check Mr Johnston's voting record, **Mr Dennis Skinner** (Bolsover, Lab) said.

After **Mr Biffen** had announced the business for next week Mr **Skinner** asked: If he finds it necessary to set up a series of meetings in order to adjudicate on this matter, will he bear in mind that, although Mr Johnston has complained about the number of opportunities he gets to speak in the House, in the last full parliamentary session he only managed 81 votes out of 332?

Mr Biffen: I am not clear that I have any adjudicating role, but if I have it will be nice to know that Mr Skinner will be my research assistant. (Laughter).

● The house then went on to debate two Liberal-SDP motions tabled for a day given them by the official Opposition.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L), Liberal spokesmen on employment, moving a Liberal-SDP motion calling on the Government to take steps to provide work for unemployed young people, said the grand total of those unemployed under age 25 was 1.19 million, not that far short of the total unemployed in Britain in 1979.

He said the situation was despairing, yet the skills of Britain's people was likely to be the most important single factor if the nation was to have a future and to be able to do all the things it wanted to do in the next 10 to 20 years and well into the next century.

The Government would have to work hard to improve the image of the Youth Training Scheme and sell it to the young.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Employment, moved an amendment endorsing the Government's industrial and economic policies in tackling the root causes of unemployment through the control of inflation and public expenditure and congratulating the Government on the successful launching of the youth training scheme.

He said the stock of vacancies continued to rise steadily and the prospects for young people were better. There had been an improvement in job opportunities open to school leavers in some areas. The Government was committed to the long term future of youth training.

Mr Gregor Mackenzie (Glasgow, Rutherglen, Lab) said the problem was that there were just not enough jobs for young people. The economic policy of the Government had failed to produce the jobs and the opportunities for these kids.

He had a daughter in her 20s who went through school, got good 'O' levels, six highers and a degree from Glasgow University. She was unemployed for a year and got a job eventually washing tables in a local restaurant. A lot of young people were cynical about training.

Mr Barry Sheerman, an Opposition spokesman on employment (Huddersfield, Lab), said unemployment had brought disaster to the country. The abilities, talents and potential of a whole generation to turn the country into a progressive and civilized place to live, had been squandered.

It had created a sub-culture of youth poverty set against the background of North Sea oil which had only been used to keep people unemployed and on the dole queue.

Mr Roger King (Birmingham, Northfield, C) said wage rates being offered to full-time apprentices were far too high. Greater financial inducement could be given by remuneration on YTS schemes at the price of reducing slightly unemployment benefit.

Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, L) said the YTS was regarded by many young people as being much more to do with getting the Government off the political hook than with something serious to do with youth unemployment.



Johnston: Profoundly unfair



Evans: Privilege issue?

No time for a debate on The Times

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, declined during questions on future business in the Commons to provide Government time for a debate on the sale of Times Newspapers.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent South, Lab) asked: Does he recall that on October 27 he promised the Leader of the Opposition that he would consider a debate on the sale of Times Newspapers? As the issues raised are so important, they cannot be brushed aside. Will he give favourable consideration to that debate?

Mr Biffen: There have been a number of parliamentary exchanges on this matter and questions have been answered. In the light of that, I do not feel able to guarantee of offer any Government time for such a debate.

Carron case in US a 'bizarre affair'

ULSTER

The case involving Owen Carron and Danny Morrison in the United States could only be described as a bizarre affair, **Mr James Prior**, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during Commons questions.

Dr Brian Mawhinney (Peterborough, C) had asked if the Secretary of State would ask the US government to appeal against the sentences delivered on the two men in order to more effectively counter adverse propaganda and publicity.

Mr Prior: I am certain we ought to draw a sharp differentiation between the views of the administration and the views of the Department of Justice in this respect.

As to whether or not there should be any further representations from us about an appeal, that I think is a matter for the administration.

Earlier, in reply to **Rev Martin Smyth** (Belfast South, UOP), Mr Prior said that during his recent visit to the US he had found a growing understanding of the problems of the UK in its attitude to Northern Ireland.

But for all that (he added), some of the remarks of the last few hours I find extremely offensive.

Maze prison security tightened

The locking device on the main gate of the Maze prison had been improved and further protection had been given to the prison officer in the main control room of each H block following the mass escape of prisoners on September 25, **Mr James Prior**, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said

Asked when he expected to receive the report of Sir James Hennessy on the break out, Mr Prior said: I understand from Sir James Hennessy that most of the evidence has been obtained and is now being analysed. However, further inquiries could be necessary and while I know that Sir James and his team are continuing to give the inquiry the fullest priority.

Until it is available I cannot comment substantively on security at the Maze Prison, except to assure the House that some improvements are being affected in the light of the experience gained on September 25.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C): Is it possible to outline to some extent the nature of the changes in the security measures that have been taken at the Maze Prison?

Mr Prior: There have been two improvements. The first is to the locking device for the main gate and the other is to give further protection for the prison officer in the main control room of each H block where the man was shot during the outbreak. These are the two so far, but it is early days.

Mr John Watson (Skipton and Ripon, C): What is the ratio between prisoners and prison officers in Northern Ireland and how does that compare with England and Wales?

Mr Prior: There are 3,000 prison officers in Northern Ireland to 2,500 prisoners and at the Maze, 1,000 prison officers to 850 prisoners which is more than a one to one ratio.

A minister denied in the House of Lords that the 1967 Abortion Act was being abused and that abortion on demand was now available.

The Government had been asked by **Lord Robertson of Oakridge** (Ind) what was its reponse to the call by the Church of England General Synod, supported by a majority of 256 to 2, for a Government-sponsored Bill to amend the Act to restrict the number of abortions

Lord Glenarthur, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, replied that the Government respected the conviction which underlaid the General Synod's vote.

We believe however (he said that abortion is a subject on which Parliament should be free to vote according to individual conscience. Accordingly the Government will continue to leave possible changes in the law on abortion to individual initiatives.

The Earl of Longford (Lab) recalled that the 1967 Act went through the House after assurances were given that there would not be abortion on demand. In many cases, however, it was and the Act was being completely abused, he said.

Lord Glenarthur: I reject what he says. This is not the case. It is not being widely abused and statistics which come to the department would verify that fact.

Aid for owners of defective houses

HOUSING

A Bill giving financial aid to the owners of prefabricated reinforced concrete houses built in Great Britain before 1960 which have been found to be gradually deteriorating due to the method of construction, will be introduced as soon as possible after December 16 when local authority associations have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals, **Mr Ian Gow**, Minister of State for Housing and Construction, said in a statement to the Commons.

He said the decision followed a study by the Building Research Establishment into the six most common types of house involved, the Boot, Cornish Unit, Orlit, Unity, Wates and Woolway.

The great majority of houses examined were found to be structurally sound and there were significant differences in the rate of



Gow: Early Bill will be introduced

deterioration between and within type. But all houses of these types would eventually be affected by cracking, the report said.

Mr Gow said: I stress that the Building Research Establishment's studies are only of prefabricated reinforced concrete houses. The conclusions carry no implications for houses of non-traditional design which use other load bearing materials.

Private owners will find themselves in a difficult position as a result of the effect of these findings on the value of their houses. The Government has decided to introduce early legislation to provide a scheme of assistance to private owners of houses sold by the public sector and since found to be defective or potentially defective.

This will be on lines broadly similar to those of the scheme for owners of Airey houses which is already in existence. The essential feature of the proposals will be a right of assistance.

A grant of 90 per cent of eligible expenses on repairs is intended to be the main form of assistance, but there will be cases in which repair will be uneconomic, or will not give the house a further useful life of at least 30 years, or will still not make the house mortgageable in the private sector.

There will be other cases in which there would be hardship for the owner if the repair were the only form of assistance possible. In these cases we propose to lay a duty on local authorities to acquire the dwellings if the owner wishes. Owners will receive 95 per cent of the defect-free value of the house.

We have in mind that the scheme should apply to all types of prefabricated reinforced concrete house built before 1960, however no final decision have been take on the initial coverage of the scheme and the BRE is studying six further types

In addition to the mandetaory scheme, local authorities will be given discretionary power to assist owners of defective houses which meet these criteria but in respect of which the Secretary of State (Mr Patrick Jenkin) has made no order requiring the local authority to give assistance. This power will enable local authorities to assist where there are local problems.

The local authority associations will now be consulted about these proposals. I will be asking them to comment before December 16 on a consultation document which is being sent to them today.

Mr Eric Heffer, chief Opposition spokesman on housing and construction (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said the statement was disgraceful. The Opposition had hoped that the Government would have been more helpful to all those who lived in such defective homes. The Minister was punishing council tenants who had not bought their defective homes, by refusing to give additional aid to local authorities.

Mr Gow: The needs of those who have not bought their homes and who will remain as tenants in the public sector, will be taken into account, along with other needs, when the housing investment programme allowances are made.

Later Mr Gow said the other six types of prefabricated reinforced house which the BRE had been asked to study were the Parkinson, Reema, Stent, Tarran (including the Dorran, Myton and Newland variants), Winget and Whitson-Fairhurst (including the Lindsay (Ayrshire) variant) types.

Asked by **Mr Robert Jones** (West Hertfordshire, C) why 1960 was chosen for the cut-off date, Mr Gow said prefabricated reinforced concrete houses of the types dealt with in his statement were not built in any significant numbers in the public sector after 1960.

Thatcher backs Bill to ban video 'nasties'

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said she agreed with the speech of Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, about pornography and video "nasties" and she hoped the Commons would grant a swift passage to the Bill on them sponsored by Mr Graham Bright (Luton South, C), when it comes before the House tomorrow.

She had been asked by Mr Andrew MacKay (East Berkshire, C) if she has studied the text of the excellent Darwin lecture by the Lord Chief Justice last Tuesday in Cambridge, in which he called upon the British people to go into battle against crime.

There was a need, he said, for longer punishments to combate video "nasties" and also he suggested that the Government should take action to stop heroin drugs coming in from Pakistan.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree with what he said about drugs and pornography. The overhwelming majority of people in this country would approve of what he said in encouraging everyone to help and support the police. With regard to video "nasties", I hope the Bill coming before the House tomorrow will receive a second reading and will be put through all its stages as quickly as possible.

Distinguished refugee from Labour Party

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) asked Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House during questions on Commons business why the remaining Mosley papers were not being released.

Is the Cabinet afraid (he went on) that such papers will show even more how the establishment and Tory circles were involved with supporting fascism at home and foreign dictatorships abroad?

Mr Biffen: The more the papers come out about this distinguished refugee from the Labour Party, the less easy it is to maintain a conspiracy view of history. I will draw his point to the attention of the Home Secretary.

EEC Commission report attacked

The latest report by the European Commission on the EEC budget problem was unsound, unhelpful and unacceptable, and the Government would say so, **Mrs Thatcher**, the Prime Minister said.

She was answering Mr John Ward (Poole, C) who asked if she was aware of anger in the country at the latest attempt of the Brussels Commission to distort the figures for the Community budget:

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Education (Grants and Awards) Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Coal Industry Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debate on Opposition motion on home improvement grants. Motions relating to milk regulations.

Thursday: Debate on the army.

Friday: Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: British Shipbuilders (Borrowing Powers) Bill and Travel Concessions for the Unemployed Bill, second readings. Debate on EEC committee report on polluter pays principle. Debate on EEC committee report on European monetary system.

Tuesday: Debate on the need to reduce violent crime.

Wednesday: Debates on Cyprus, unemployment, and taxation of artists.

Thursday: Roads (Scotland) Bill and Petroleum Royalties (Relief) Bill, second readings.

Preventing another straw inferno

HOUSE OF LORDS

A call for an outright ban on straw burning was rejected by **Lord Belstead**, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, when he replied to a debate in the House of Lords early today (Thursday) He said that outlets for the straw would not suddenly appear just because of a ban on burning which would leave millions of tons of surplus straw laying around the countryside awaiting disposal.

Lord Alport (C), who opened the debate, said he was concerned with the existence of a public nuisence which could and should be stopped and by which a small minority of the community imposed an intolerable burden during a particular period of the year upon their neighbours and the public as a whole.

The National Farmers Union proposed strengthened code of conduct should be used to control straw and stubble burning for, say, three years and a system of licensing should be introduced. There should be a much improved and more extensive research effort into finding alternative use for straw, with particular reference to converting it into pulp for paper making, using the experience of other European countries such as Denmark.

The industry should be called upon to help by a levy on arable land and at the end of three years, stubble and straw burning should be made illegal, with severe financail penalties.

Lady Stedman (SDP) said that however carefully a field was burnt there could be no avoiding sending ash and smut into the sky to fall miles away upon some unsuspecting and justifiable angry citizen and make a mess of washing and freshly painted houses. Industrialists were forced to spend money to reduce pollution, so why not farmers?

The Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rt Rev John Bickersteth, said they must tighten up and deal properly with the enforcing of a code of practice and make that code into law. Then the prosecutions must begin. Such figures as he had seen were pathetically small.

Even those farmers who were brought to court face a maximum fine of only £1,000. The minimum penalty should probably be around the £5,000 mark. There was no mileage in an immediate ban on burning.

Lady Nicol (Lab) said stubble burning was probably acceptable if controlled. With the strength of law behind it, the NFU code would be effective in controlling stubble burning. If the Government's reply was unsitisfactory, there were many peers and MPs who were determined on action to prevent a repetition of this year's inferno.

Lord Wise (C) said that until other outlets were fond a total ban on straw burning would create considerable and possibly insurmountable problems for farmers. There was a need for legislation or strengthened bye-laws and much greater penalties.

Viscount Mountgarret (C) said the suggestion that there should be legislation to enforce the NFU code of conduct probably went a little to far. It was a good code and many farmers observed it to the hilt.

Lord Belstead said the Government was concerned to do everything possible to prevent a recurrence of the damage and danger caused this year.

The experience of straw burning was regularly reviewed and because of the particular problem resulting from the unusual weather conditions in July, August and earl, September this year's review had been more detailed and broadly based. The worrying picture that had emerged from the debate matched the outcome of the review.

Ways of improving the feeding value of straw, processing it into briquettes and making use of it for paper and board were already known, but the uptake of these developments was restricted

More district councils than ever before intended to prosecute for offences under bye-laws this year. A geat deal of research and development was being devoted to alternative uses for straw.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Video Recordings Bill, second reading.

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Miners' leaders brush aside pleas for pay offer ballot

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday brushed aside appeals from the National Coal Board for an early ballot on the "final" 5.2 per cent pay offer and agreed to continue their two-week overtime ban indefinitely.

Despite rumblings from some moderates the National Union of Mineworkers' executive voted unanimously to keep up the limited industrial action that is costing the board £10m a week in lost output.

Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, said: "If anything, there is a hardening of attitudes".

Production is about 400,000 tonnes lower this week, but the coal board insists that all customers are being supplied and the industry is saving on the costs of adding unwanted coal to stock.

No further talks are planned on the board's "first and final" offer of basic rate increases ranging from £4.90 to £6.80 a week. The overtime ban is not due to be reviewed until the next monthly meeting of the national executive on December 8.

Nominations for a new general secretary will also close then. Voting will take place by secret pithead ballot on January 20 and the odds are increasingly on the official left candidate, Mr Peter Heathfield, aged 54, secretary of the Derbyshire minners.

His main rival is expected to be Mr John Walsh, moderate area agent in the North Yorkshire coalfield. The winner will take office in March and work together with Mr Lawrence Daly, who is taking early retirement for health reasons.

Mr Scargill said that the executive of 25 members was satisfied with the way the ban is being implemented in all coalfields.

Asked about the proposal by Mr Ian McGregor, NCB chairman, that the pay offer should be put to an *immediate ballot*, the miners' president said: If he is interested in a ballot then I am perfectly willing to have one on whether the men want him to continue as chairman of the board".

The NUM had by working a five-day week exposed "undermanning" in the industry. If the board wanted to cut out overtime completely, it should employ 25,000 unemployed young people rather than making men in the industry work longer, Mr Scargill said.

Heroin trade rise blamed on refugees

By Peter Evans and Hasan Akhtar

The Afghan crisis is being blamed in Pakistan as one reason for the big rise in heroin coming into Britain which was attacked by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, on Tuesday.

Afghan refugees who have fled to Pakistan have their trading partners over the border, part of a divided community struggling for survival.

But evidence has been produced by officials of the Narcotic Control Board to refute Lord Lane's charge that nothing was being done to stop the trade in Pakistan.

"I wait, so far in vain," he said on Tuesday, "for any indication that steps are being taken at any level to stop this flood of death at its source".

The officials say the recored poppy yield of a few years ago has been reduced tenfold, measures to control drugs have already resulted in violent resistance and new penalties are now being contemplated by the Pakistan Government.

It has sought the help of tribal chiefs of the North West Frontier Province to secure the dismantling of about 30 laboratories producing heroin.

The government is considering raising the maximum penalty for drugs possession and trafficking from the present three years hard labour in jail to life imprisonment.

British customs officials said that last year the Indian subcontinent and in particular Pakistan accounted for 84 per cent of the total heroin seized



Age of technology: Mr Harold Macmillan, aged 89, the former Prime Minister, with Sir Clive Sinclair, the inventor in London yesterday to launch a range of educational computer software for children. The programmes, using animal characters and lively games, will help children aged five to seven learn to read, using a combination of fun and work. Another set of programmes will explain scientific ideas to eight to 12 year olds. The software will be on sale before Christmas after a business deal signed between Macmillan Educational and Sinclair Research.

Future of Kenwood House in dispute

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Hampstead Heath's best known sight, Robert Adams's Kenwood House, is once more at the centre of controversy over its future. Lord Moyne, the grandson of Lord Iveagh who left the house to the nation on his death in 1928, has pledged his opposition tot government plans to transfer control of the house to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The future control of Kenwood is in doubt because of the Government's proposal to scrap the Greater London Council which now runs it. The GLC is no favourite of the Friends of Kenwood, largely through a vague threat to sell off some of its valuable art collection to raise money for social purposes two years ago, but the pressure group wants to establish the house under independent control.

Lord Moyne, the poet, novelist, and playwright Bryan Guinness, will be among a deputation from the Friends fo Kenwook to the Arts Minister, Lord Gowrie, on November 23.

"I feel that my grandfather, in leaving Kenwood to the nation when our private funds were inadequate to maintain it, meant it to go to a public authority.

"No small local government body would be able to fund it. Therefore the right solution, if there is to be no GLC, is that it should be funded by central government and have its own body of trustess."

'Shamateur' libel award quashed

J P R Williams, the Welsh rugby player, had his £20,000 libel damages over allegations of "shamateurism" taken away by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The award, made by a High Court jury last year, was quashed and a new action was ordered, at which fresh evidence will be heard alleging that Mr Williams received "boot money" for wearing Adidas products.

At the libel hearing it had been alleged that he had infringed his amateur status by planning to keep the cash from the sale of his book, *JPR – an Autobiography*.

After a four-day hearing the jury accepted his claim that it has been his intention to give the money to charity and set up a trust to open a sports clinic in his home town of Bridgend.

The damages were awarded against *The Daily Telegraph*, its former rugby writer, John Reason, and its editor, Mr William Deedes, who denied libel in two articles in February and March, 1979, under the headings "JPR's gain may be Wales' loss" and "The board should act now to halt shamateurism".

Lord Justice Stephenson, sitting with Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice Purchas, said yesterday the appeal would be allowed and a new action ordered because of misdirections to the jury by the trial judge Mr Justice Russell.

The allegation was denied by Mr Williams, aged 33, now an orthopaedic surgeon

Child found after car hijack

Mrs Christine Mitchell, aged 38, was forced from her car in Stockport, Greater Manchester, yesterday by a youth carrying a shotgun who had stolen £2,500 in wages and who escaped with her daughter Zara, aged two, still in the back seat.

The youth had grabbed the money from two employees from Ironside Lubricants in Stockport as they carried it into the company's offices yesterday morning. He jumped into a vehicle, which crashed as he tried to escape. He then forced a red Simca saloon to stop, ordered the woman driver to get out, and drive away. The child was found safe and well about an hour later wandering in the street in Offerton, about two miles away.

Welsh blaze

Police are treating as suspicious a fire yesterday which severely damanged a 200-year-old cottage at Llangadwaladr, near Aberffraw, on Anglesey, which was used at a second home by Mr Charles Wyatt Warren, a Welsh artist.

Soldiers hurt

Six soldiers aged 17 and 18 were seriously hurt yesterday in an accident in fog on the A1 near Catterick, Gamison, North Yorkshire. Their lorry and a coach were involved in a collision.

Laker case can go to Lords

The liquidator of Laker Airways was yesterday given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against a ruling that he must drop British Airways and British Caledonian from a anti-trust action being brought against them in the United States.

Lord Diplock, sitting with Lord Fraser of Tullybelton and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, gave the liquidator, Mr Christopher Morris, of the accountants, Touche Ross, leave to challenge the Court of Appeal decision in July granting the airlines an injunction ordering Laker do its best to "procure" that the two were dropped from the action.

The US action, in which seven other international airlines are being sued for more than $1,000m (£660m) damages, alleges that Sir Freddie Laker's Skytrain operation which offered cut-price transatlantic flights, crashed because of a conspiracy by competitors.

Laker was also given leave to argue its claim that the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry overstepped his powers in making an order under the Protection of Trading Interest Act, 1980, which effectively prevented the two British airlies comlying with any orders made against them in America.

Ex-footballer is jailed

Dave Smith, the former Scotland, Rangers and Aberdeen footballer, aged 39, was jailed for three years by the High Court in Edinburgh, yesterday for embezzling £49,000, while working as a credit controller with an Aberdeen timber merchants.

The court was told that Smith, of Bredero Drive, Banchory, Aberdeenshire, lost the money gambling. Since his early twenties he had lost £200,000 through his gambling addiction.

Sportsmen shoot back at critics

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Official conservation bodies were criticized yesterday for ignoring the role of sporting interests in preserving the countryside and its wildlife.

The British Association for Shooting and Conservation believes that it is time for the millions of people who enjoy field sports to take the offensive against what it calls a vociferous minority determined to abolish them.

But is also feels that sportsmen are being cold-shouldered by the environmental quangos, perhaps because the latter do not want to be seen to be associated with hunting and shooting.

Mr John Anderton, the association's director, said yesterday that *The Conservation and Development Programme for the United Kingdom*, published last June, devoted less than one of its 496 pages to the significance of game and sporting interests.

The document, the official British response to the United Nations' World Conservation Strategy, and was largely the work of bodies such as the World Wildlife Fund, the Countryside Commission, the Nature Conservancy Council and the Royal Society of Arts.

"We think that this great study would have been much better if it had addressed itself fully, and without apparent political bias, towards all the rural resources users, not just an accepted and selected few", Mr Anderton said.

Contrary to popular belief, shooting sportsmen were drawn from all walks of life.

Mr John Swift, the association's director of conservation reserarch, pointed out that less than 10 per cent of the 50 million acres of rural land in Britain was conserved by public bodies.

The remainder was in the hands of private and institutional landowners and their tenants.

Eurocommunists widen party conflict

By Rupert Morris

The most serious ideological rift for many years within the Communist Party of Great Britain widened yesterday with the publication of resolutions for the party's thirty-eigth congress, to be held at Hammersmith Town Hall, west London, at the weekend.

Although the party's membership has declined over the past year from 18,458 to 15,691, it remains a potent force within the union movement, and any substantial policy change might have far-reaching implications for British industry.

The central conflict, which has been simmering for several months, is between the traditionalists on the hard left who believe in mobilizing the industrial working class, and the Eurocommunists who wish to spread the party's message through the peace movements, women's organizations and other contemporary lobby groups.

The Eurocommunists, who describe their internal opposition as "sectarian", have a majority on the party executive and wish to see the party's newspaper, the *Morning Star*, give unequivocal support to the executive's views. They also want to have a say in the managerial affairs of the newspaper.

To that end, the leadership is not proposing to endorse the nomination for executive seats of Mr Tony Chater, the *Morning Star* editor; Mr David Whitfield, his deputy; and Mr Mick Costello, the paper's industrial correspondent.

Instead it will be supporting Mr Chris Myant, an assistant editor, and Mr Frank Chalmers, an editorial assistant.

These moves will be fiercely resisted, however, by a group of activists led by Mr Costello, until recently the party's industrial organizer; Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed BL shop steward; and Mr Kenneth Gill, general secretary of Tass, the white-collar section of the engineering workers' union.

They believe that by espousing "trendy" causes and neglecting potential support within the trade unions, the party leadership is playing into the hands of employers and the Government.

Although the leadership is expected to carry the day on most issues at the congress, it did suffer an unexpected reverse recently when party members voted against its recommendations for membership of the People's Press Printing Society, the cooperative which owns the *Morning Star*.

Whichever way the votes go this weekend, the PPPS seems certain to continue its opposition to greater executive control over the *Morning Star*.

Britain accused of trying to destroy EEC's foundation

From Ian Murray, Athens

Britain was accused of trying ot "destroy the very foundations of the Community" yesterday by an angry Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission. He was outraged at the way Britain had rejected the latest Commission proposals for breaking the deadlock over fixing the scale of contributions to the EEC budget.

He made time during the intricate session of negotiations between EEC foreign and finance ministers here to claim that the Commission scheme still offered the only chance of salvation to the Community. He was clearly nettled at the way in which his ideas had been mauled by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, during the first session of the special council the previous evening.

The British proposal, he said, "is a system for which it will never be possible to obtain a majority in the parliaments of our 10 countries. To institutionalize the 'fair return' in this way would destroy the very foundations of the Community. If they were introduced, the Community would not be the same thing tomorrow."

The British delegation tended to take this as a compliment. Its view is that the whole idea is to change the Community from its present stagnant state into something new and dynamic. The Commission president's remarks were dismissed as "a nonsense and a rather surprising reaction".

As the talks dragged on, however, it became clear that every other member state was waiting for Britain to move away from its very clear hardline position before starting negotiations in earnest. There was still a widespread feeling that Britain could not possibly cling indefinitely to its present unpopular argument.

But Sir Geoffrey and Mr Michael Jopling, who arrived for a special session of agriculture ministers to argue for reform of the common agricultural policy, both stuck rigidly to the British line.

Until Britain was required to pay no more than a fair share towards the Communit budget, and until there were rock-hard guarantees that farm spending would be contained, they would discuss nothing else.

Unofficial figures based on the latest commission proposals tended to indicate that Britain was exaggerating the size of the problem.

By including the system already put forward for reducing the amount of value-added tax that Britain would have to pay, the figures show that Britain would have automatically received £615m worth of relief from the new proposals last year. This compares with the £675m it has eventually been paid in rebates for 1982.

Mr Thorn emphasized, however, that there were still no real figures on the table. The proposals were simply a strategy for tackling the problem. What had to be done was to negotiate the figures for insertion into the plan.

Sir Geoffrey was not impressed with this argument. The only argument the British people understood, he said was how much money Britain paid to Brussels. That, therefore, was the only acceptable basis for any new formula.

The unofficial figures show that the Community currently spends less per head on the British population than in any other country in the community.

In 1982 payments were about £24 per head in Britain, compared with £37 in France, which was almost exactly the Community average. Luxembourg, with payments averaging £400 a head, gained the most and Ireland, with £152 a head, has been among the most successful.

The effect of the new proposals could be to inflate the size of Britain's gains by nearly £4 a head, thereby reducing the size of Britain's grievance. The Commissions has claimed that this would be an extreme interpretation of its proposals, but the Treasury is highly suspicious that the whole exercise is designed to massage the figures very deliberately to Britain's disadvantage.

EEC SPENDING

	B	DK	WG	GR	F	IRL	I	L	NL	UK	Avge
1.	529	547	1910	684	2830	495	2596	2.6	1402	1277	
2.	405	478	2206	613	3224	282	2464	.12	920	1655	
3.	1251	634	2736	1012	3503	913	3704	281	1572	2334	
4.	763	565	3032	942	4000	699	3574	215	1094	2717	
5.	126	124	44	105	65	268	66	702	112	42	64
6.	77	111	49	98	74	206	63	537	78	49	64

1. Farm spending in each member state in 1982 expressed in millions of European Currency Units (ECU).
2. Farm spending in 1982 according to the commission's proposed method of reallocating benefits according to the proportion of the Community crop produced in each member state expressed in millions of ECUs.
3. Total Community spending in each member state in 1982 expressed in millions of ECUs.
4. Total Community expenditure in each member state in 1982 according to the new Commission proposal expressed in millions of ECUs.
5. Number of ECUs spent by the Community in each country per head of the population under existing methods of calculation.
6. Number of ECUs spent by the Community in each country per head of population according to the new Commission proposal.

The ECU conversion rate in 1982 was 57p.

Key: B=Belgium; DK=Denmark; WG=West Germany; GR=Greece; F=France; IRL=Ireland; I=Italy; L=Luxembourg; NL=The Netherlands.

Lebanon: Marines relax as PLO fights on



Two faces of war: Marines at Beirut airport stand proudly behind a giant birthday cake to mark the Corps' 208th anniversary, and (right) a corporal carefully erects an extra barrier of barbed wire.

Shellfire shatters fragile Tripoli truce

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The short-lived ceasefire in the Palestinian civil war round the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli collapsed yesterday afternoon in a welter of shellfire as Mr Yassir Arafat accused Syria of bringing an armoured brigade to the help of the Palestinian rebels trying to destroy him.

The truce, arranged by the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister after talks in Damascus, had lasted less than 24 hours, though the two sides had been bombarding each other in desultory fashion for much of the morning.

Even as Mr Arafat was insisting that his own Palestine Liberation Orgainzation guerrillas were abiding by the ceasefire, their Katyusha rocket-launchers could be heard firing from the port area of the city. The official PLO leader – "official" because most of the Palestinian forces in Lebanon are now ranged against him – said Syrian troops would attack Tripoli soon from three sides.

Throughout the day Mr Arafat avoided any suggestion that he was about to leave Tripoli. The means to do so were offered by the Italians during the morning, when Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Defence Minister, announced in Rome that the missile cruiser Orsa and the destroyer Ardito – both on station in the Mediterranean with the multinational force – had been ordered to evacuate the PLO leader and his senior entorage, if asked to do so.

All Mr Arafat would say was that he was "willing and ready" to leave Tripoli, if requested to do so by the city's religious and civic leaders.

Sahikh Saeed Shaaban, the Sunni Muslim spiritual leader in Tripoli, has appealed to President Assad of Syria to abide by a ceasefire, but has given a warning that Sunni nationalist militias would join PLO loyalists in fighting the Syrians if Tripoli came under wholesale attack.

● WASHINGTON: Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told a press conderence here that a defeat for Mr Arafat would not be of military significance (Nicholas Ashford writes). He felt the PLO had ceased to be a significant force since its guerrillas were evacuated from Beirut last year.

● JERUSALEM: The wave of unrest which has swept the Israeli-occupied West Bank, in protest against the Syrian-backed assault on Mr Arafat, still a hero for thousands of West Bankers, continued yesterday (Christopher Walker writes).

Petrol bombs were thrown at an Israeli bus near the West Bank town of Ramalish and another at an Israeli car near Bethlehem, but no casualties were caused.

Stone-throwing attacks on Jewish targets continued in Nablus.

End of Israel call-up test eases tension

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

One of many factors for tension in the Middle East was eliminated yesterday when Israel's military command announced the end of the mass call-up exercise launched on Wednesday involving tens of thousands on men.

A terse statement yesterday said: "The exercise was part of a series held at irregualr intervals to imporve the efficiency of the call-up process. A first analysis shows that the response was fast and orderly . . . The last reservists are now returning to their homes."

The controversial exercise was held in the face of extreme Syrian nervousness, apparently unallayed by assurances passed through the UN and other diplomatic channels that Isreal had no aggressive intent.

The Government's decision to persevere with it after Monday's full mobilization in Syria was ween as part of a war of nerves. Israel's military strength is heavily dependent on the efficiency with which its largely reserve army can be brought to the battle front

The last exercise of the kind was held in February, 1981. According to General David Ivri, deputy chief of staff, Wednesday's operation – which also involved the requisitioning of hundreds of private vehicles through code words broadcast by local radio – was needed to test recently developed methods of speeding up mobilization.

In a separate development, Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told the West German magazine *Stern* that Israel was likely to "extend Israeli law" to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip if the plan for Palestinian autonomy outlined in the Camp David treaty could not be implemented.

Optimism grows for restoring Cairo link

From Robert Holloway, Cairo

Israeli officials in Cairo are optimistic that the first high-level contacts with Egypt for 18 months will result in the return of an Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

"There is a will on both sides to resume contact," an enbassy official said on Wednesday after Mr David Kimche, Director-General of the Foreign Ministry, arrived and conferred with Dr Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Egyptian officials said the talks centred on the dispute over Taba, a small town in eastern Sinai which Israel refused to hand back to Egypt when it returned the rest of the peninsula in April last year, under terms of the 1979 peace treaty.

Another important topic was the status of some 5,000 Palestinians stranded in a camp at Rafah, northern Sinai, after the Israeli withdrawal. They had been moved out of the Gaza Strip before the return of Sinai.

Egyptian officials said the talks between Dr Boutros Ghali and Mr Kimche were "designed to re-energize the process" which stalled when Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv in September last year in protest at the Israeli Army's move into West Beirut and the massacre by Lebanese gunmen of hundreds of Palestinian refugees there.

Egypt at first said the condition for resuming full relations was that Israel should announce a timetable for pulling all its forces out of Lebanon, but since then it was intimated that Israel must also show willingness to compromise over Taba and stop building settlements on the West Bank.

Iran takes reprisals for French sale to Iraq

Tehran (AFP, AP) – France's delivery of five Super-Etendard bomber planes to Iraq has sparked a series of Iranian economic reprisals according to the French.

The measures taken by Tehran included a demand that the commercial attaché's office be closed, stiff sanctions against French banks and the closure of the French Institute for Research, an archaeological organization that has been in Iran for a century..

The reprisals appear to be aimed at ending France's commercial and financial links in the country.

Two versions of jet crash

The Angolan Government and the Unita rebels have issued contradictory claims about the Boeing 737 which crashed at Lubango airport on Tuesday killing all passengers (Richard Dowden writes).

Unita claims to have shot down the plane and that it was carrying government troops and Cubans. The Government said that there were only two soldiers among the 128 people on board.

Kidnap couple appeal to Paris

Bangkok – A young French couple appealed to the French Government to meet the demands of Burmese rebels who have been holding them hostage for three weeks (Neil Kelly writes).

M Jacques Bossu and his wife, Martine, have been told they will be released only when France undertakes to cancel all aid to Burma.

Danube crisis

Vienna – Anxiety has been mounting here this week that the Danube will become unnavigable if there is no rainfall within the next few days. A Bulgarian tug recently ran agournd five miles west of Vienna and other cargo ships have been asked to halve their loads.

Union charges

Lisbon – Twenty-three Portuguese union leaders, arrested in front of the Prime Minister's official residence here, have been charged with holding an unauthorised demonstration and disobeying police orders to move on.

Job for Swede

Stockholm (Reuter) – Mr Ove Rainer, who resigned as Sweden's Justice Minister after a row over his methods of avoiding taxes, has been named a judge of the Supreme Court.

End of an era

Geneva – With a fly-past at Sion, the Swiss Air Force bid a ceremonial farewell yesterday to the last of its British-designed Venom jet fighters which have been in service for the past 30 years.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Foreign policy seems destined to play a critical part in another American presidential election. President Carter's failure to resolve the Iranian hostage crisis was one of the principal reasons why he was not reelected in 1980. Now, with Lebanon and Granada, Mr Reagan's handling of foreign affairs is bound to have a big effect on his chances next year.

He needs to strike a fine balance. He must avoid giving the impression of ineffectiveness which so crippled Mr Carter, but he also has to be careful not to reawake the old fears that he is at heart a trigger-happy President.

This is particularly important for women voters, who have signifcantly less confidence in him than men have. This may be partly because of his lack of instereat on women's rights: Mr Reagan will never look convinving as a feminist sympathizer. But much of his difficulty is that he is liable to alarm women in their roles as wives and mothers.

They are afraid that with him as President there is rather more danger of their husbands' and sons' being sent off to the wars. If his policies feed this anxiety he could be in trouble next November.

So far he has managed pretty well in domestic political terms. There was a moment just after the Beirut massacre when it seemed that he might be about to cut the same ineffective figure as Mr Carter. But Grenada changed all that.

It gave the US the victory it needed. With every day that passes the political advantages to President Reagan become more evident. The benefits of the operation are practical and immediate. The liabilities are long-term and intangible.

The assets have been emphasized by a brilliant exercise in public relations. Mr Reagan himself has been at his most persuasive. All the talk this past week has been of having dealt with the Cuban challenge just in time, of disbanding the task force, withdrawing all American troops by Christmas if possible, and of plans for the new democracy.

The critics have had the ground cut from under them. When an old political pro like Speaker Tip O'Neill turns full circle to announce his conversion to the value of the operation, it shows which way the political winds are blowing. If the election were held now I have not the slightest doubt that foreign policy would be a big asset for Mr Reagan.

But will it continue to be an advantage? I do not believe that any amount of debate will change American popular opinion on Grenada. Public approval will diminish only if the facts change.

If things turn sour on the island it will no longer seem a neat, surgical operation. If there were to be further, more ambitious military actions by the US in Cenral America, Grenada might then come to be regarded not as a simple success story but as the first move in a new and more dangerous sequence of events.

But one consequence of Grenada is that Mr Reagan will not be under pressure to take risks to prove that he can act strongly in Central America.

Lebanon presents a more hazardous political problem, The American temperament is not suited to peacekeeping operations. According to the national tradition, soldiers are for fighting and wars are for winning. From Korea onwards, the US has been uncomfortable with military engagements along more complex lines.

There is an underlying unease in the US about the Lebanon operation now. If there is a succession of further American casualties, even without anything nearly as dramatic as a repetition of the Beirut massacre, unease will turn to anger. Mr Reagan would then be vulnerable if he simply left American troops to be shot at.

But any retaliation would have to be carefully judged if it were not to raise political alarm bells at home. Many Americans would be nervous about either raising the level of force to a higher plane or involving the US in a military operation from which it could not easily disengage.

The immediate preoccupation of Lebanon and Grenada are not the only international issues that matter politically in the US. If Mr Reagan was able to reach a disarmament agreement with the Soviet Union he would earn a valuable electoral bonus. But the political significance of Grenada is that he does not now need to achieve further foreign policy successes. He just has to keep out of trouble.

Danish MPs back Nato membership

From Christopher Fullett, Copenhagen

The Danish Parliament yesterday reaffirmed Danish membership of Nato, calling upon the Conservative-led minority Government to maintain Denmark's nuclear-free status within the Alliance and work actively for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Scandinavia.

Speaking in a debate on national security, Mr Hans Engell, the Minister of Defence, said the Government would continue to support Nato's current nuclear strategy, leaving the door open for possible future consideration of nuclear-free zones in Europe in consultation with its allies. The motion was passed by 57 votes to 13 with 72 abstentions.

Denmark's Nato allies this week rejected outright its request for a special meeting of alliance foreign ministers to reappraise Western deployment policy.

Malta holds up accord at Helsinki

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

Five neutral countries presented a draft final document to the Helsinki preparatory conference, which is trying to agree on an agenda and timetable for the Stockholm conference on confidence and security building measures due to begin in January.

Most delegations wish the Helsinki meeting to end on Friday. This was however made doubtful by Mr Evarist Saliba of Malta who again tries to bring non-participating Mediterranean countries closer to the security process. Western delegations objected stongly. Urgent negotiations began to find a compromise that would give these countries a chance to make an initial contribution but not more.

Mr Saliba said that the neutral draft was "absolutely and unequivoccally unacceptable", because it did not take account of any of Malta's demands.

Gift time: Sir William Bentley (left), the British ambassador and Mr Arild Kristiansen, Oslo's tourist chief, start felling the Christmas tree which the city sends every year to London, to stand in Trafalgar Square.

US wants to improve 'hot line'

From Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent, Washington

United States officials are preparing to reopen talks about improving the "hot line" between Moscow and Washington, for the first time since the South Korean airlinefr crisis two months ago. They also want to establish an international system of consultation in the event of a nuclear "accident" to ensure that nations would not overreact.

Proposals to make better use of the "hot line" were put forward by President Reagan a year ago, and the last in a series of contacts between special delegations from the superpowers took place in August.

If progress had been swifter and the US recommendations enacted, the airliner incident might well have been avoided. As it is officials are tactfully trying to avoid any "we told you so" note in their dealings with Moscow.

The direct communications link is not a scarlet telephone of the kind which figures in most people's imagination, but a Telex channel which has been operated from the Pentagon since 1963.

President has spoken to President on a number of occasions, including the Six-Day War in 1967, although the White House incumbent does not actually have to drive to the Pentagon and punch the message out himself.

A team of operators man the machine and test it every hour of the day and night, sending poems or friendly inquiries to their Moscow counterparts, to ensure all is working as it should. Mrs Dobrynin, wife of veteran Soviet Ambassador in Washington, was a recent visitor to the control room.

Now the Americans want to make use of modern technology by introducing a facility to transmit maps and pictures over the wire. They also want to improve the communications in a similar way with their own embassy in Moscow and between the Kremlin and the Russian Mission in Washington.

The third of the four proposals mooted last year was to establish similar links between military commands on either side. This is the kind of facility which might have allayed Soviet fears over the airliner, according to officials.

The American idea of a multilateral consultation link-up will require careful sounding-out of countries during the next few months.

Another secret file pops up

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Another secret State Department document was found on Wednesday during a search at a maximum-security prison near Washington, officials of the department said. It was the third discovery of classified documents sent inadvertently to the prison in a shipment of surplus furniture.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has ordered an urgent investigation of how a safe full of top-secret documents got to Lorton prison in Virginia, about 25 miles southwest of Washington.

The officials said they were still not certain whether other documents were still missing or had fallen into unfriendly hands.

Diciplinary action will be taken against those responsible for the security leak, unprecedented in State Department history, when the investigation is complete.

World church leaders pay tribute to Luther

Eisleben, East Germany (Reuter) – World religious leaders joined the East German Protestant church at the birthplace of Martin Luther yesterday to mark the 500th anniversary of his birth.

Delegations from more than 20 countries attended ecumenical church services in the small town of Eisleben south of Berlin, much of which has been renovated to mark the anniversary. Several thousand people gathered in the town square later for a ceremony by lantern light.

Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, who was expected to attend the celebration services, stayed away and church leaders put this down to displeasure with the strongly independent line on disarmament taken by the country's Protestant church.

Cooperation between the separate state and church committees organizing the celebrations has produced statements by both that they want to keep on good terms but little evidence of improved relations. Ties are strained principally by church followers' concern at what they see as increasing militarization of East German society and a general refusal of the authorities to allow them freedom of expression.

These differences were highlighted by a speech on Wednesday in East Berlin by Herr Gerald Götting, the deputy East German leader, who cited Luther in support of state policies including not only social welfare but also military defences.

Herr Götting was due to represent the state Luther committee yesterday but was injured in a 40-vehicle motorway crash on the way to Eisleben and his place was taken by Herr Ernst Mecklenburg, also a deputy chairman of the Council of State.

Luther's parents moved away from Eisleben soon after his birth on November 10, 1483, and he went to school at nearby Mansfeld, where Hans Luther was a copper miner.

Britain resists Unesco's new order

From Roger Beardwood, Paris

Britain and the US took a strong stand yesterday against moves in Unesco to impose the so-called "new world information and communication order". Most Westen governments argue that this would threaten freedom of the press by making licensing of journalists mandatory.

Mr Ray Whiteny, Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, told the commission debating the proposals that Britain was 100 per cent against legal norms that would define "responsible and irresponsible" journalism. The proposals envisage withdrawal of licenses from "irresponsible" journalists.

In an interview, Mr Whitney said that the key issue was who would decide what was responsible and otherwise. The system could become a weapon for governments determined to shackle the press.

On the other hand, Mr Whitney emphasized that Britain was strongly in favour of helping third world countries to strengthen their communications and information systems.

Mr Gregory Newell, US Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations, warned the Unesco commission that if it tried to impose the new order, Washignton would automatically withhold its contribution to the Unesco budget, which is a quarter of the total. The Beard Amendment prohibits America from supporting any organization that threatens freedom of the press.

Commission Four, which is considering the proposals, is expected to send its recommendations to the general council next week. British and American observers think that the council is very likely to pass them.

In a related issue, Britain, the US and six other Western countries – known as the hardliners – are resisting the Unesco directorate-general's budget proposals, which call for a 6.1 per cent increase. A compromise proposed by the Nordic countries calls for a rise of only 2.5 per cent.

The directorate-general indicated yesterday that it might accept the Nordic compromise. "We are still studying the position", said Mr Whitney. "We have yet to be convinced that any budget increase is necessary".

Judge sets date for cruise hearing

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York

The next hearing of the action by 13 women from the Greenham Common "peace camp" to halt deployment of cruise missiles in Britain will be on November 21, when a New York federal judge will rule on a US Government application to dismiss the case.

Judge David Edelstein set the date after he ruled against an application by the women's lawyers for an immediate temporary order restraining shipment and installation of the missiles.

The hearing will decide whether the case of Greenham Women Against Cruise v President Reagan has sufficient merit to move towards a preliminary injunction.

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The Grenada aftermath

Americans wonder how long to stay

From Trevor Fishlock, St George's Grenada

It seemed straightforward: American troops in, a rotten government destroyed, a time of fear ended, Cubans expelled and an interim administration installed to hold the ring until elections can be held.

But both the Americans and the interim administration face a tangle of difficulties. Grenada's funds are low and its economy weak. It badly needs help.

The crucial question for the Americans is how long to stay before their welcome begins to fray and how much money to pump in to help to regenerate the economy without making the island dependent. They have to strike a balance between obligation, economic first aid and the long-term interests both of themselves and the islanders.

They also have to decide quickly on the future of the half-built airport that President Reagan saw as a Cuba-Soviet base and a threat to his country, but which many Grenadians believe is a vital component of their economic advance.

The queues of people waiting to see bank managers in St George's are evidence of the anxiety many Grenadians feel. After the terrible day of October 19, when crowds were fired on by soldiers, and Mr Maurice Bishop, the former Prime Minister, was killed, people rushed to the banks to withdraw their money.

Inflation is about 15 per cent and people seek and usually get more time to pay back loans. The sharp decline in business and loss of income during the crisis will reduce tax revenues. The recent upheaval may also damage the tourist business.

The Bishop Government went in for a number of expensive projects to improve the economy and had to increase taxes. It also set much store by the airport at Point Salines, due for completion next spring. The island has only a small airport, at Pearls, and the new one was seen as vital for exploiting the tourist potential of an exquisitely beautiful island. It was expected that more hotels and better roads would follow.

Cubans were doing much of the construction work and the British company, Plessey, had an £8.5m contract to install radar and navigation aids, air-conditioning and other equipment. Some of the delicate *equipment stores at the site was* damaged during the invasion.

Point Salines is now a secure military base and has been the scene of the largest American military operation since the Vietnam war. The Americans may want to retain a strong presence there.

The 9,000ft runway that Mr Reagan saw as ideal for Russian and Cuban military aircraft, but which is the minimum length for large airlines, is at a crucial stage of construction. It lacks a final sealing coat of bitumen. Without it rain will penetrate the runway and crack it, a process that will be hastened by the landing of heavy military aircraft. The runway could be ruined in three months.

The airport question is regarded as a test of American intentions. For the time being the soldiers are welcome liberators and no one seems to find the road checks irksome. But perceptions may change and the Americans are already beign warned that once euphoria wears off resentment could set in.

People are dismayed, for example, that the army claims office set up on the quayside here does not entertain claims for damage caused during fighting. It deals with such things as claims resulting from crashes between Grenadian cars and army lorries.

The Americans, extrication from Grenada is a delicate matter. The timetable of withdrawal, the question of whether they should have a permanent military presence, and the allocation of aid have to be just right. Otherwise the atmosphere may sour and Grenada may become a thorn.



Sir Paul Scoon, the Grenada Governor-General, braves heavy rain to announce an interim government.

Invasion critics change minds

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Despite the relatively heavy casualties suffered by US, Cuban and Grenadian forces during the fighting in Grenada, a growing number of American politicians are publicly supporting the US aciton, giving President Reagan an unexpected political bonus as he prepares to announce his 1984 election plans.

The most surprising expressions of support have come from Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat, Massachusetts) and Mr Thomas (Tip) O'Neill, the House Speaker.

After a report by a bipartisan congressional mission which visited Grenada at the weekend, Senator Kennedy called the invasion "appropriate action" while Mr O'Neill, who had previously denounced the military operation as "gunboat diplomacy", has now said it was "justified".

Another unexpected declaration of support has come from Congressman Michael Barnes (Democrat, Maryland), who is normally an outspoken critic of the President on foreign policy issues.

In an article in yesterday's *Washington Post* (which also now believes that "the President made the right decision in Grenada"), Mr Barnes, a member of the congressional fact-finding team, wrote: "It was a very close call, but it was reasonable, weighing the factors the President had to weigh, to reach the decision that he made".

However, two members of the mission have said they still retained doubts.

Undoubtedly the welcome US troops received both from Americans on the island and from the Grenadians, as well as reports of the quantity of weapons discovered there, have caused Mr O'Neill, Mr Barnes and others to adjust their views.

But, with the US presidential election less than a year away, they have also undoubtedly been influenced by the overwhelming support of the American public for the invasion.

A *Washington Post* ABC News poll showed that the President's handling of the crisis had increased his overall popularity rating to its highest level in two years, and that he had edged ahead of the two leading Democratic contenders for the Presidency, Mr Walter Mondale and Senator John Glenn.

Meanwhile, the Reagan Administration yesterday firmly denied British press reports that the US death toll in the Grenada invasion was more than twice that officially reported. Asked to comment on these reports, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told *The Times*: "they're wrong, they're wrong".

The names of those who died have been prominenly reported in the Us Media. The Administration has reported 18 American deaths in the Grenada operation. The British press reports said the death toll was 42 and could rise as high as 80.

Killer strikes

Bonn (AFP) – Dieter Goetze, *a convicted triple murderer* known as the "Paris strangler", struck again by killing his sister and her son a few miles from Bonn before committing suicide. He had been released from jail earlier this year.

Reagan's argument persuades Japan

From David Watts, Tokyo

The United States has won significant commitments from Japan which should lead to some liberalization of the Japanese economy and pave the way for the emergence of the yen as an international currency. Washington believes that the measures should strengthen the yen, making Japanese products less competitive and easing the enormous Japanese-US trade imbalance.

The measures, however, will need approval by the Diet and the ability of Japan to deliver results is complicated by the fact that Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, is expected to go to the polls by the end of this year.

President Reagan has promised the Japanese that SS20 missiles in the Soviet Far East will receive equal consideration in arms negotiations to those aimed at Europe and the United States. His promise comes amid fresh evidence that the Soviet Union plans to build up its deployment of SS20s in central Siberia and the Far East above the 108 already in place.

According to press statements after their second round of talks, the President told the Japanese Prime Minister: "The US will take no action in the intermediate nuclear forces negotiations that adversely affects the security of Asia".

That assurance was one of the few detailed public references to defence issues.

Spain and Portugal meet to mend fences

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Señor Felipe González and Dr Mario Soares, the prime ministers of Spain and Portugal, meet today in Lisbon to try to launch a new spirit of collaboration between the two nations, neighbours "with their backs to each other".

There are big trading problems, and Señor González is taking a team of ministers, including Señor Miguel Boyer (Economics and Finance) to the two-day summit.

Relations, at their lowest ebb for decades, are more than a challenge for the two Socialist prime ministers and the poverty of economic, political and cultural contacts are a matter of shame.

Many Portuguese, Dr Soares has warned the Spaniards, still mistrust their bigger neighbour, from whom they achieved independence only in the seventeenth century. The first site suggested for the talks was rejected because a monument to the independence struggle stands outside.

Before departing, Señor González floated the idea of dismantling all tariff barriers but Dr Soares replied that a Benelux-style relationship was "too imaginative".

Both almost daily proclaim their impatience to join the EEC. Yet neither has felt able to emulate Ireland, which prepared for membership by negotiating a free-trade agreement with Britain.

For years, Spain has been Portugal's thirteenth-ranking customer. There is no Portuguese bank in Madrid and still no bridge over the Guadiana river between Andalusia and southern Portugal.

The trade framework established in 1980 between Spain and Portugal, with EEC entry in mind, soon ran into difficulties as Spain's exports, chiefly industrial goods, rapidly grew, while Portugal's, mainly raw materials and textiles, declined initially.

By going slow on licences, Portugal, in the first nine months of this year, reduced Spain's exports to £172m, against £290m for 1982, while pushing its exports to Spain up to £79m, against £72m for all of last year. By such tactics Portugal hopes to induce Spain to go on lowering its tariff barriers.

Portugal has stonewalled on renewing a fishing agreement, fining all Spanish vessels caught "trespassing". Behind a conservationist argument lies the fact that Spanish boats are more efficient.

Tinkering with the system

Illness and inertia hold back efficiency drive

Richard Owen, Moscow Correspondent, concludes his examination of Soviet policies a year after the death of Brezhnev with a report on the home front.

When the Korean airliner was shot down over Sakhalin – taking with it hopes for an East-West thaw – President Andropov was on holiday in the Caucasus.

He returned to Moscow, but, according to some reports, much of the handling (or mishandling) of the crisis was left to two lieutenants: Marshal Dmitry Ustinov and Mr Konstantin Chernenko.

Mr Andropov's prolonged absence and his incapacitating illness have cast doubt on his political future.

He has never acquired dictatorial powers, but his authority remains unchallenged: he holds the three vital posts of party leader, head of state and chairman of the Defence Council (an appointment announced obliquely by Marshal Ustinov in May).



It took his predecessor years to go so far. But the combination of poor health and bureaucratic obstruction have slowed Mr Andropov down, leaving him unable to steamroller through the economic and administrative reforms he initially outlined.

Preoccupation with the arms question has also taken some of the steam out of his drive for efficiency and discipline.

A year ago Mr Andropov pinpointed the drift and stagnation of the Brezhnev years. This has been followed by modest innovations in agriculture, including a "contract" system of payment by results. Food supplies have improved. In July, Mr Andropov announced a "limited industrial experiment", giving managers in selected industries a degree of autonomy.

But these moves towards a scaled-down version of the *Hungarian reform* have run into opposition from the old guard. They have also been attacked by those who think they do not go far enough.

Mr Andropov said the time had come for action, not talk: but a Kremlin research paper leaked in August called for radical action, including decentralization and hints of market socialism.

Mr Andropov favours tinkering with the system rather than fundamental change. Yet even his cautious thrust towards reform is being blocked by officials more used to the immobility of the later Brezhnev years.

Their champion, it is thought, is Mr Chernenko, who lost the leadership battle a year ago but is still at the top. He no longer heads the powerful "general department" and Andropov aides have moved into other key party positions.

Mr Chernenko is seen as a lightweight figure, yet he is acting head of the Politburo in Mr Andropov's absence, receives foreign delegations and writes prominent articles on ideology.

Some sources say that if Mr Andropov recovers from his illness – there are unconfirmed reports that he has had a kidney operation – and takes firm command he will be in a position to take stronger measures next year.

He has the armed forces on his side and the KGB – his former fief – has increased its political influence over the past year (one side-effect being an almost Stalinist crackdown on dissent and heresy in the arts).

But Mr Andropov has made no changes to the Politburo and all eyes are now on the next Central Committee plenum, expected at the beginning of next month.

Local party elections are being used to winkle out Brezhnev men and pave the way for an altered Central Committee, with perhaps as many as 30 to 40 per cent of the provincial party secretaries being replaced.

Manoeuvring for the succession has already begun and will intensify if Mr Andropov is not well enough to guide and address the Central Committee plenum.

Mr Grigoriy Romanov, the tough Leningrad party boss who was moved to Moscow as a party secretary in June, is the favourite, with Mr Geidar Aliyev and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov not far behind.

Mr Romanov and Mr Gorbachov are both Russians and both Central Committee secretaries as well as Politburo members. Mr Aliyev, who joined the Politburo last November, is the former KGB chief and party leader in Azerbaijan.

Mr Andropov, who is aware of the vigorous and impressive generation of future leaders coming up behind him, chose Mr Romanov and Mr Gorbachov to accompany him this summer when he addressed party veterans on the theme of youth and communism.

He must hope that the legacy he leaves them will lay the basis for a less corrupt and more prosperous system. Equally, he must hope he will have more than one year in which to tackle the undergrowth of inertia and incompetence which he identified as the enemy when he came to power.

Concluded

Fight for power in Salvador vacuum

From John Carlin, San Salvador

The climate in El Salvador has been heavy with reports of attempted coups in recent days as factions in the armed forces become increasingly restless at the country's political and military stagnation.

Signs from the right that they wre poised to revert to time-honoured methods of seizing power provoked some frenzied backroom manoeuvrings last Friday among moderate military officers planning what has been described as a "preemptive coup".

But well-informed sources here say that the US Embassy applied pressure to veto a scheme which would have put in doubt the legitimacy of Washington's moral and military commitment to a country it considers strategically vital.

Retired General Jaime Abdul Gutiérrez, member of the military–civilian Government from 1979 to 1982, denied this week that he had led Friday's coup attempt.

But he then proceeded to lash the Government for "taking the country into chaos", complaining of a total absence of efficient leadership in both the political and military areas.

With the war going badly for government forces and the country politically a vacuum, Dr Alvar Magaña's title of Provisional President, which he has held since the election in March last year, has never seemed so appropriate.

Under the direction of the extreme right-wing Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, El Salvador's Constituent Assembly has been floundering in attempts to draw up a new constitution before the elections due next year.

The lack of a clear political direction has led the right to step up the activity of its death squads lately, as a means of imposing its political will in such key areas as land reform and trade union activity.

The victims of the death squads in the last two months of well-publicized political assassinations have been chiefly labour activists and rural cooperative workers,

The 7,000-strong rebel army, the FMLN, has palpably taken the initiative in the four-year civil war, prompting military officers to pin the blame on weak central government.

Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, commander of El Salvador's elite American-trained Atlacatl battalion, said in an interview on Wednesday that most of his fellow officers were "Frustrated at the slow, directionless political process. This is no time for political party squabbles", he said.

Bonn defiant over EEC beer order

From Our Correspondent Bonn

Bonn is prepared to go to the European Court in Luxembourg to uphold West Germany's 490-year-old beer purity law, on health grounds, against imports of "adulterated" foreign beers ordered by the European Commission.

Dr Heiner Geissler, the Health Minister, yesterday told a brewers' convention in Nuremburg that "our beer law says it may be made only from hops, malt, yeast and water.

"This means that neither rice nor maize, nor chemical substances to create a decent froth in a glass may be employed. All other EEC members allow that, with the exception of Greece.

"... We have defended the law from the start and we shall go on doing it and, if need be, not shy away from going to the European Court."

The European Commission claims the German law, which dates from 1493, infringes the Treaty of Rome, which forbids import restrictions.

Fears for priest held in Ciskei

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Concern is growing here about the fate of Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, the black General Secretary of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference who was arrested by Ciskeian security police on October 30 and has not been heard of since.

Attempts by the conference to find out his whereabouts and the reasons for his arrest have failed. Bishop John Murphy of Port Elizabeth, the diocese which includes Ciskei, had made three requests for a meeting with the Ciskeian Minister of Justice, but all have been turned down.

Father Mkatshwa was arrested after attending a prayer meeting organized by Christian students at the University of Fort Hare, the most famous black university in South Africa. The meeting was called mainly to mourn the death last month of five students at the University of Zululand.

Brazil pushes through law to curb wages

From Patrick Knight São Paulo

After a tumultuous 10-hour session, ending at 4.30am on Wednesday, the Brazilian Congress finally approved the controversial decree which limits future wage increases to less than the inflation rate.

Two earlier decrees had been rejected by Congress, but on this occasion all government party members were obliged to vote in favour, and all but one were in Brasilia to do so.

The new law opens the way for the IMF to release its delayed loans to Brazil, and for the private banks to start lending again.

Wage rises will now be kept below the inflation rate for all except those earning less than about £120 a month, on a sliding scale.

This means that the total wage bill should rise by 12.5 per cent less than inflation during the next year, forcing the rate down.

Leading article, page 13

Ramphal attacks US aid cuts

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The United States is critized today by Mr Sonny Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, for cutting back on aid to even the world's poorest countries.

He attacks President Reagan's economic policies and the new mood of "national assertiveness" – most of all in Central America – in the introduction to his two-yearly report.

But he also condemns the Soviet Union for adding to world tension through its continuing occupation of Afghanistan and for exploiting economic weakness elsewhere.

Mr Ramphal's report, coming within two weeks of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Delhi, was written before the left-wing coup and subsequent US intervention in Grenada.

During the two years since the last meeting in Melbourne, he says, the world has faced the most serious dangers since the Second World War.

He refers in his introduction, "The Healing Touch", to the retreat from détente, to a sterner mood of confrontation in the world and a fall in the level of tolerance, as the superpowers have moved further apart in "mutual suspicion and accusation."

The Secretary-General goes on: "The arms race has been stepped up, draining even more resources from a world economy where want is increasing and where more people are facing absolute poverty. Amd while world trade has contracted, the arms race has soared."

Shrinking markets have led to economic insecurity. Output has dropped, jobs have been lost and confidence has waned in the ability of governments to control events.

Unemployment has passed levels thought "politically intolerable and morally unacceptable" 10 years ago and continues to rise. Among those worst hit have been the young, with a quarter of a whole generation leaving school to face life on the dole. Social services, he says, are being squeezed.

Mr Ramphal criticizes the Williamsburg economic summit last summer as "a missed opportunity". The same mood of inertia prevailed during the UNCTAD VI meeting at Belgrade where the North-South dialogue drifted helplessly into the doldrums."

He attacks the way in which South Africa has been allowed to "call the tune" over Namibia and urges the five-nation Contact Group to make diplomatic progress toward the country's independence. If it cannot, then the world must devise "other strategies".

Meanwhile, South Africa has used its rising military strength to "harness and bully" its neighbours, most of whom are fragile members of the Commonwealth.

But he welcomes the code of conduct adopted last year by the Commonwealth Games Federation, signalling opposition to sporting links with South Africa. Several governments have taken "swift and decisive" action against Sportsmen who have breached the boycott he notes with approval.

هكذا من الأصل

THE DIFFERENCE A REGULAR MONTHLY INCOME MAKES:

What 11½% p.a. gross earns you every month

Investment	Average monthly income	Investment	Average monthly income
£ 2,000	£ 19·17	£15,000	£143·75
£ 3,000	£ 28·75	£16,000	£153·33
£ 4,000	£ 38·33	£17,000	£162·92
£ 5,000	£ 47·92	£18,000	£172·50
£ 6,000	£ 57·50	£19,000	£182·08
£ 7,000	£ 67·08	£20,000	£191·67
£ 8,000	£ 76·67	£21,000	£201·25
£ 9,000	£ 86·25	£22,000	£210·83
£10,000	£ 95·83	£23,000	£220·42
£11,000	£105·42	£24,000	£230·00
£12,000	£115·00	£25,000	£239·58
£13,000	£124·58		
£14,000	£134·17		

(Each additional £1,000 invested produces an average of £9·58 a month – £115·00 a year. Maximum of £200,000.)

As you can see, an investment in National Savings Income Bonds can make a lot of difference to your income. Currently you'll get 11½% pa interest on your Income Bonds. You'll get it paid monthly. And you'll get it all paid without deduction of tax.

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It means some extra money coming in regularly to help pay the bills or simply to spend enjoying life.

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For details of repayment see paragraph 6 of the prospectus (the full prospectus is published below).

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Or ask for an application form at your Post Office.

NATIONAL SAVINGS INCOME BONDS

NS

PROSPECTUS

1 The Director of Savings is authorised by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to receive until further notice applications for National Savings Income Bonds ("Bonds").

2 The Bonds are a Government security, issued under the National Loans Act 1968. They are registered in the National Savings Stock Register and are subject to the Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register for the time being in force, so far as these are applicable. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be a charge on the National Loans Fund.

PURCHASE

3.1 Subject to a minimum initial purchase of £2,000 (see paragraph 4) a Bond may be purchased for £1,000 or a multiple of that sum. Payment in full must be made at the time of application. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date of receipt of the remittance, with a completed application form, at the Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool, or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

3.2 An investment certificate, bearing the date of purchase, will be issued in respect of each purchase.

HOLDING LIMITS

4.1 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £2,000 or more than £200,000 of Bonds. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder will not count towards this permitted maximum. Furthermore, Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum which he is permitted to hold in his personal capacity, nor will Bonds held in trust count towards the permitted maximum of a beneficiary's personal holding.

4.2 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits and the minimum initial purchase from time to time, upon giving notice. No such variation will prejudice any right under the prospectus enjoyed by a Bondholder immediately before the variation in respect of a Bond then held by him.

INTEREST

5.1 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase at a rate determined by the Treasury ("the Treasury rate").

5.2 Interest will be payable on the 5th day of each month. The Director of Savings may defer payments of accrued interest otherwise due in respect of a Bond within the period of six weeks following the date of purchase until the next interest date following the end of that period.

5.3 If on repayment the Bond has, by reason of paragraph 6.1, earned less interest than the total already paid in respect of the Bond under paragraph 5.2 the balance will be deducted from the sum to be repaid. Any interest earned on the Bond and not already paid before repayment will be added to the sum to be repaid. If, in the case of repayment under paragraph 6.2, it is not reasonably practicable to stop an interest payment from being made after the repayment date the amount of that interest payment will be deducted from the sum to be repaid.

5.4 The Treasury may from time to time vary the Treasury rate upon giving six weeks' notice.

5.5 The Treasury may from time to time vary the intervals at and dates on which interest is payable, upon giving notice, and in so doing may specify holding limits above or below which any variation will apply. No variation will apply to a Bond issued before the variation unless the Bondholder agrees to such application.

5.6 Interest on a Bond registered in the sole name of a minor under seven years of age will normally be paid into a National Savings Bank account in the name of the minor.

5.7 Interest on a Bond will be paid without deduction of Income Tax, but it is subject to Income Tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue.

REPAYMENT

6.1 A Bondholder may obtain repayment of a Bond at par before redemption upon giving either three or six calendar months' notice. The amount of interest earned by the Bond from the date of purchase until repayment will be determined by the period of notice given by the Bondholder and by whether or not repayment takes place before the first anniversary of purchase.

	3 months' notice of repayment	6 months' notice of repayment
Repayment before the first anniversary of purchase	No interest in respect of any period	Interest at half the Treasury rate from the date of purchase to the date of repayment
Repayment on or after the first anniversary of purchase	Interest at the Treasury rate from the date of purchase to the date the notice of repayment is received at the Bonds and Stock Office	Interest at the Treasury rate from the date of purchase to the date of repayment

6.2 Where an application for repayment of a Bond is made after the death of the sole or sole surviving registered holder no fixed period of notice is required and the Bond will earn interest at the Treasury rate from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment, whether or not repayment occurs before the first anniversary of the purchase.

6.3 Any application for repayment of a Bond must be made in writing to the Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool and accompanied by the investment certificate. The period of notice given by the Bondholder will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the Bonds and Stock Office.

6.4 Application may be made for repayment of part of a Bond in an amount of £1,000 or a multiple of that sum provided that the holding of Bonds remaining after the part repayment will still fall within the minimum holding limit imposed by paragraph 4.1 as varied from time to time under paragraph 4.2. The preceding sub-paragraphs will apply to the part repaid as to a whole Bond. The remaining balance will have the same date of purchase and the same interest dates as were applicable to the original Bond immediately prior to repayment.

PAYMENTS

7 Interest will be payable direct to a National Savings Bank or other bank account or by crossed warrant sent by post. Capital will be repayable direct to a National Savings Bank account or by crossed warrant sent by post.

MINORS

8 A Bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person, will not be repayable, except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

TRANSFER

9. Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. Transfer of a Bond or part of a Bond will only be allowed in an amount of £1,000 or multiple of that sum and will not be allowed if the holding of the tranferor or transferee would thereby be outside the holding limits imposed by paragraph 4.1 as varied from time to time under paragraph 4.2. The Director of Savings will normally give consent in the case of, for example, devolution of Bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

NOTICE

10. The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 4.2, 5.4, 5.5 or 11 of the prospectus in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes or in any other manner which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazettes it will as soon as is reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS

11 Each Bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the first interest date after the date of purchase. Thereafter, interest will continue to be payable under the terms of the prospectus until the redemption of the Bond. The Bond will be redeemed at par either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any interest date thereafter, in either case upon the giving of six months' notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the Bondholder before redemption, at the last recorded address for his Bondholding, informing him of the date of redemption notified by the Treasury.

APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL SAVINGS INCOME BOND

To NSIB, Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancs FY3 9YP.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

1 I/We accept the terms of the Prospectus and apply for a Bond to the value of:- £ ____ ,000 — Initial minimum of £2,000 and multiples of £1,000 to a maximum of £200,000

2 Surname(s) — Full Christian name(s) or forename(s) — Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address (including postcode) ____

Name of Trust (if applicable) — Date of Birth (if under 7) Day Month Year

3 NAME AND ADDRESS FOR DESPATCH OF INVESTMENT CERTIFICATE (if different from above).

Name ____

Address ____

4 DIVIDENDS TO BE PAID BY CREDIT TO:- (If not to a National Savings Bank or other bank account, enter name and address to which dividend warrants should be sent)

Bank ____

Address ____

A/c Name(s) — A/c No

T7

5 Signature(s) ____ Date ____ 19 ____

SPECTRUM

Smoothing the path to the top

Only C. P. Snow could have done justice to the battle for the new entrance system to Oxford University. Last week the reformers won a victory. But there is still room for the traditionalists to escape. Robin Young reports.

I suspect I got into Oxford by a lie. My interviewers noted that I had studied nothing but nineteenth century history. Who, one of them asked, ruled England in 1530? Desperate, I guessed: "Henry VIII." When they seemed to concur I added upon an euphoric inspiration: "I worked it out from Shakespeare." The senior tutor's eyelid trembled. I was in.

Telling this story in Oxford now, I am assured it cannot be true. It was by my papers I was judged – interviews never counted for much. Maybe, but it is mythology like mine that perpetually agitates people's feelings about Oxbridge entrance exams. My belief, that one could fluke a way in, has always been matched by more pessimistic myths: that no one can make it without family connexions, wealth or the right school background.

When I went up the Oxford entrance system was still a tangled thicket of closed awards (one limited to sons of one-eyed haberdashers, we were told), college group examinations for open awards, and separate college exams for commoners' places. Some less lucky than me became Oxford commuters, trailing up to Oxford colleges five or more times a year.

In 1962 the system was rationalized. Oxford and Cambridge retained their own entrance exams, held in November, but only on condition that they decided early in the academic year – by January 31 – on candidates they did examine. Those who were told "Yes" had then only to fulfil matrication requirements (two Es in A-levels) and they were in. Those who were told "No" knew early enought to hunt for places elsewhere through the UCCA admissions procedure to other British universities which offer places on condition that certain grades are reached the following summer.



Dr Oliver Taplin, admissions committee chairman: 'We cannot shed the Brideshead image by altering our admissions policy.'

Some Oxford colleges made limited use of the same "conditional offer" mode of entry as used by UCCA, but pupils had to apply earlier to Oxford and on a separate form. Interviews for conditional offers,, held in September and October, left candidates nine months' notice of the grades they required in A-levels if their conditions of entry were to be fulfilled.

Though entrance exams could be sat at any age (and in successive years if success was not immediate), public schools concentrated their attention on sending candidates for examination in their seventh term of sixth form, after sitting A-levels and having one term's special preparation for the Oxbridge trial.

The 1962 arrangement was probably suitable for its time. Then Oxford made its choice from a relatively small number of schools – public, direct grant and maintained grammar – all of which themselves had selective entry. Since then the reorganization of secondary schools has produced hundreds of comprehensive schools which undoubtedly have many pupils of high academic potential, but which have no resources to devote to special coaching for Oxford and Cambridge entrance exams, and usually no opportunity to welcome pupils back after A-levels.

The unfairness has shown. Independent schools educate just 7 per cent of the population. They take a third of all university places, but at Oxford the proportion rises to almost precisely half. With such discouragement it is hardly surprising that of 2,541 maintained schools on the UCCA list, 500 have not entered a single candidate for Oxford's exams in the last four years.

In attempts to make the system fairer, while no doubt hoping to catch themselves some cleverer candidates from a neglected pool, some colleges, – led by Hertford – pioneered admission schemes which dispensed with examinations. Other schemes, notably for Scotland and inner London, were devised to encourage applicants from schools in areas felt to be particularly disadvantaged by the system.

Finally, last November, Keble College proposed to steal a march by moving closer to the UCCA system. It would have dispensed with the Oxford entry form, and interviewed conditional-offer candidates in November at the same time as the college was holding its entrance examinations. This was the straw which broke the camel's back.

It was decided that the time for a thorough overhaul had come. A committee under the chairmanship of Sir Kenneth Dover, president of Corpus Christi, was appointed "to produce a simplified admissions procedure common to all colleges".

Dover approached this task of "Byzantine complexity" with the delicacy and sensitivity with which he formerly expounded theories about the nature of homosexuality in ancient Greece. On almost every issue he and his committee found complete variance of opinion not only among themselves, but within every sector of the educational system. While some argued that Oxford must set all its applicants written examinations, others argued that it should examine none. One college argued that interviews would be more reliable if there were no written papers to prejudice the interviewers. Others furiously declared that Oxford was being torn from its standards of excellence "by appeals to specious fairness and illusory simplicity".

Dover and his colleagues, in 27 earnest hard-working, but by all accounts good-natured meetings elaborated detailed scenarios of the consequences of proposed changes, and eliminated the various possibilities until they thought they had a package all the colleges might be persuaded to accept.

Last week their hopes were realized. The Dover recommendations were voted through, subject to only two substantial amendments. Dover himself is satisfied that the changes should simplify the system and make it fairer, though much will depend on how the new system is implemented. Oliver Taplin of Magdalen, chairman of the management committee of the Oxford Colleges Admissions Office, is more bullish: "If maintained-school candidates do not apply now, I suppose they never will, because these reforms do meet most of the things the maintained schools complained were putting them off. All that remains is a media problem. We cannot shed the *Brideshead* image by altering our admissions policy."

Or ensure that more maintained-school candidates will actually get in, Dover would cautiously add. "There is a jump in reasoning in supposing that you can alter the type of school from which successful candidates come by changing the admissions system", he says. "The only way of guaranteeing that more of the intake came from the maintained sector would be to impose a quota." Wryly he tells the story of a northern headmaster who told him: "If Oxford made shapely calves the criterion of entry, Sir Kenneth, in three years my boys would have the loveliest legs in Yorkshire."

Indeed school corridors, and teachers' and admission tutors' telephones, are already abuzz with speculation about how the Dover changes will affect the coming generations of sixth-formers. And independent schools have already summoned meetings of parents to explain how they intend to ensure that, despite the new system, their children will still excel.

The public-school pupils who have spent the last eight weeks rehearsing for the seventh-term (post A-level) Oxford entrance exams held this month are in the penultimate year to enjoy that particular luxury. From 1985 Oxford applicants will either face their written exam in the fourth sixth-form term before sitting A-levels (Mode E) or go for entry without written examination (Mode N). Mode N will be open to candidates at any stage of their career. All the colleges have agreed to adopt the same procedure.

The Dover reforms mean that interviews for both modes of entry, E and N, will be conducted simultaneously in December so that selectors will have all the candidates before them at the same time. There will be no more gambling with early offers, not knowing the strength of the candidates who might present themselves months later.

Fourth-term sixth-formers will no longer be pitted in exams against seventh (and even tenth) termers with the unconvincing assurance that the exams are designed to test potential rather than achievement. Ridiculed in schools, the claim was regarded sceptically even in Oxford. And candidates will no longer be obliged to list three Oxford colleges in order of preference. In the past it was something akin to filling a football pools coupon. The totally unpredictable variations in the size and quality of the field which might go for places in the same subject at any one college left some candidates unplaced, while the luckier ones of no greater ability were snapped up by their colleges of first choice.

From 1985 candidates will still be able to list preferences for one, two or three colleges. Those who choose to return open applications, without stating any preference, will be allocated to colleges by computer according to the number of places available.

In the new system schoolteachers will be involved in panels supervising the Oxford entrance exams. Dr Harry Judge, director of Oxford's Department of Educational Studies, says: "I do hope with their participation that it will be possible to design exams which will be much more precise than the existing ones in determining academic potential, rather than attainment."

Two issues remain to disquiet the Dover committee reformers. One amendment to their scheme results, they claim, from misunderstandings and confusion. It means that Mode N applicants, as well as being encouraged to submit written work from school and being subject to interview and oral tests, may also face an hour of written tests as well. There are fears that these tests may quickly develop into a proliferation of alternatives to the newly abolished seventh-term exam. At present it is not even clear whether they are to be set by individual colleges, or by inter-collegiate subject committees. That, Oliver Taplin promises, will speedily be sorted out.

Dr Peter Neumann, of Queen's College – the Dover committee member who dissented from its recommendation to limit entrance examinations to pre-A-Level candidates – is relieved that the option of written tests is to remain. "They will provide a common currency in our system", he says, "when candidates might be seen by several colleges. It is not at all clear that A-levels plus an interview is a fine enough instrument when you have to select the ablest from among what are already the very best."

A second amendment was passed despite a circular dispatched by Sir Kenneth Dover to all colleges pleading against it. This permits colleges to state, subject by subject, whether they intend to prefer candidates from Mode E or Mode N.

Dr Judge says: "I do not think it will work. I trust colleges will quickly come to see that it is in their best interests, as well as that of candidates, that they should not implement it. Stating a preference against non-examination candidates will mean that those colleges cannot be sent open-application candidates in that subject, and must reduce the number of good people who will be available to them."

If Dr Judge is wrong, and the right to state preference is widely used, page 3 of the 1985 prospectus will carry a table, peppered with Es, Ns and blanks, looking once again like a pools coupon, and inviting candidates to perm their preferences according to their preferred mode of entry.

How effective the changes will be in increasing the maintained sector intake at Oxford is still anyone's guess, though everyone agrees that it must help. Mr David Potter, headmaster of the Ernest Bevin Comprehensive School in Wandsworth, London, commented: "I used to go to conferences at Oxford and it was like being a voice crying in the wilderness. I welcome the changes, but I still do not think they will get the right candidates. I see a lot of my former pupils who tried to get into Oxford or Cambridge and failed, but who then get firsts from other universities, and that is what I look at."

The independent schools, which depend heavily on Oxbridge entrance results to attract their future fee-paying pupils, will be determined not to lose too many of the glittering prizes. Dr Judge says: "If the schools most interested in Oxbridge entrances elect to cheat, by earlier specialization or by forcing pupils through O-levels early to leave more time for entrance exam preparation, that would regrettably show that they are not serious about maintaining a good level of secondary education or about being fair to other schools."

Yet undoubtedly the public schools are already laying their plans and pondering one final question. What if Cambridge refuses to follow Oxford's lead in abandoning the seventh-term exams? How will they cope if Oxbridge divides into two separate systems?



Sir Kenneth Dover: a delicate touch for a Byzantine task

Why the entrance exam is a waste of effort

Dr Paul Collier of Keble College and Dr Colin Mayer of St Anne's analysed the examination records of 526 candidates who applied to read PPE at Oxford in 1978, and 294 undergraduates who sat finals in 1982 and 1983 and obtained second or third class degrees. (Attention was concentrated on these classifications since they are the ones to which examiners pay closest attention in their marking.)

On admissions the researchers found that children from comprehensive schools had a significantly higher probability of being accepted than did children from independent schools with the same examination grades. Yet they concluded that this differential was not generous enough. This was because they also found that children from comprehensives did better in finals than those from independent schools with the same O and A-levels. They argue therefore that a more balanced social mix at Oxford would not conflict with higher academic standards.

From their analysis of finals' results, Collier and Meyer concluded that Oxford's entrance exams had the least predictive value of all in forecasting how well candidates would do at the end of their university careers.

The table shows key results of the study. Taking an applicant with median characteristics in terms of age and O-level, A-level and entrance examination marks, column 1 shows how the candidate's chances of admission to Oxford varied with improved performance in each exam. Better marks in the Oxford entrance examination were markedly the most influential factor.

Column II shows how the same factors relate to whether an undergraduate in the finals gets a second or third-class degree. Discrepancies between admissions and finals results are very wide, and although examiners placed most reliance on the entrance exam in admissions, it is inferior to both O and A-levels as a predictor of finals results.

In finals, the comprehensive candidate with median characteristics was found to perform far better than the independent school undergraduate.

The researchers estimated that 35 per cent of the applicants who obtained admissions could be predicted to do less well than would candidates who had been rejected. Had places been allocated by lottery this would have been true of only 60 per cent. So despite a powerful social bias in favour of independent schools, they argue, Oxford's entrance system has been only moderately superior to a random raffle.

But since O and A-levels were little better as predictors of finals performance, they fear that the net outcome of the present reforms could simply be to substitute one lottery for another.

THE NEW EVIDENCE

Admission and Finals performance probabilities of a woman applicant aged 18 from an independent school with median O, A, and entrance exam marks

	PROBABILITY OF BEING ADMITTED TO READ PPE (POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, ECONOMICS)	PROBABILITY OF GAINING SECOND AS OPPOSED TO THIRD CLASS DEGREE
	24%	75%
CHANGE IN PROBABILITY IF:		
CANDIDATE WAS MALE	−4%	+3%
CANDIDATE WAS 9 MONTHS OLDER	−10%	−8%
CANDIDATE CAME FROM A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	+21%	+9%
CHANGE IN PROBABILITY IF: the exam performance of the candidate corresponded with the upper quartile mark (upper tenth: in brackets) as opposed to the median mark in:		
O–LEVELS	+12% (+23)	+5% (+9)
A–LEVELS	+16% (+27)	+5% (+8)
THE OXFORD ENTRANCE EXAM	+33% (+60)	+1% (+2)

From Westminster school: the view of the classroom

Number in school: 617
Number in first and second year sixth: 293
Number trying for Oxbridge each year: 60-65
Oxbridge entries, 1982: 48
In any one year one third of all leavers get in to Oxford or Cambridge.

Dr John Rae, Headmaster: "I think Oxford is right to make the change, but we are bound to think in terms of what help we can give our pupils to ensure that in the new system they do well. We already put 40 per cent of our pupils through O-levels in two years. Now we will have to consider whether we slow them down so that they are that much more mature when they come up for the entrance."

First year sixth formers, who would have taken the entrance exam in 1985

Penelope Davies: "With the last of the seventh-term examinees trying to get into Oxford in the same year as us, there is likely to be a shortage of places. I am thinking of trying for Cambridge now instead."

Jonathan Baxter: "With the whole system suddenly changing like this, we do not know what to expect. There was a lot of unfairness in the system, but it's also unfair that it comes down on us."

John Goodgame: "I still want to get to Oxford because it is better for arts subjects, and as both my parents went there I have some slight family connexion."



Left: Dr John Rae with John Goodgame, Angus Saer, Penelope Davies and Jonathan Baxter; right: head boy Alasdair Coles with Andrew Hordern

Angus Saer: "Our first-year sixth work now is going to be really hard, really fast, and I am afraid, governed exclusively by the syllabus."

Taking Oxford entrance exams this month:

Alasdair Coles, 16, head boy: "It will be a pity to lose the seventh term study because it really is exciting and stimulating, but I would much prefer to win a place thinking that I met the competition on an equal footing. To think you won only because of privilege must make you feel pretty lousy."

Andrew Hordern, 18, tenth-term applicant: "Anything which attacks privilege of the public schools must be good, but the Oxbridge exams have been very different to A-levels. In A-levels they are impressed by the sheer number of facts you throw at them. For Oxbridge you had to be able to supply some concrete argument as well".

moreover... Miles Kington

Fog is the permanent outlook

My friends find it hard to believe that I recently became the author of an entirely serious work entitled *Nature Made Ridiculously Simple*. Just how serious this survey of the entire natural world was can be judged by the fact that I did not plead for the sentimental protection of any rare species, but argued rather for the extermination of a great many, in order to make nature easier to identify. During the course of research for the book, which took several weekends, I discovered an entirely new species of insect, but where other naturalists might have weakly cordoned off the area or made a phone call to David Attenborough, I made the firm decision to destroy all known specimens before it proliferated.

My most amazing discovery, though, was the fact that there is one science which has actually gone backwards in the last 30 years and is now more primitive than it used to be. That science is meteorology. So primitive is meteorology that no weatherman has ever issued an appeal for the protection of a rare kind of cloud or warned that cirro-cumulus is being hunted to extinction.

Thirty years ago meteorology seemed to be on the verge of a breakthrough. Clouds would be seeded by flying weathermen, we were told. Long-range forecasts would become better and longer. Satellite photography would tell us more and more. Nothing of the sort happened. The campaign to cause rain by seeding came to an end several years ago in utter failure with, I believe, one small shower to show for 30 years' effort. Long-range forecasts have been withdrawn because they are so inaccurate. And satellite photos still have to have the outline of Britain drawn on to them so that anyone can make out anything at all.

The only advance chalked up in 30 years is the surrender to feminists over the question of hurricanes. Once given only female names, they are named after men as well, but as the last one I read about was called Hurricane Raymond, I do not think this can be called a real advance.

I now realize that I was slightly unfair to meteorologists, and that they have advanced significantly on one front: packaging. It has long been an axiom of big business that if you can't improve the product, you can always improve the packaging and increase the price. If you can't make the weather forecasting better, you can at least improve the style of it, so there has been a quiet revolution in the dressing-up of weathermen coming in across the screen like a warm front.

Symbols on the weather maps have become brighter and better, with more colours, more playschool drawings on them, more numbers lying around. And the weathermen have learnt the art of switching the symbols around on the map so quickly that the eye is deceived. Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between the average weatherman and Paul Daniels.

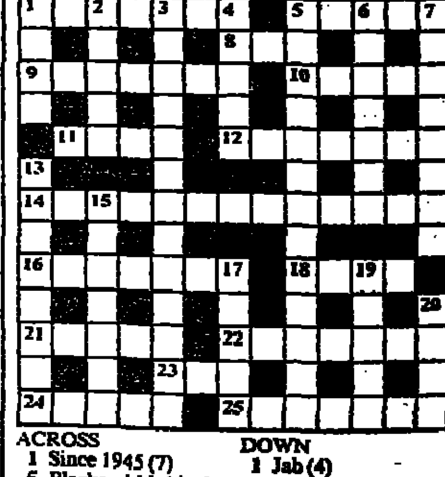
There are so many maps and colours and photos and symbols and weathermen's smiles that we don't notice, in the middle of the conjuring, that the patter is exactly the same as it always was: terminally vague except about things they can really be sure of. Last week I heard a rare example of a weatherman committing himself; this morning in London it will be rainy, he said, but this will clear at lunchtime and the afternoon will be bright. In fact, it rained all afternoon. After 30 years, they still can't get the afternoon right in the morning.

Of course they are right a lot of the time. So they should be. By the law of averages they are going to be right about everything at least 50 per cent of the time. But still they take refuge behind the sort of hazy language that distinguishes racing tipsters and politicians. This week I brought myself again to ring up the British Telecom Weatherline (another bit of grand dressing up) and heard the following words, several times in fact to make sure I'd heard right:

"Clearer weather will spread from the west in the evening. In these clearer conditions it will become rather misty, and fog patches will form later."

Everything clear?

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 199)



ACROSS
1 Since 1945 (7)
5 Blacksmith's block (5)
8 Social insect (3)
9 Russian government (7)
10 Human trunk (5)
11 Common interest group (4)
12 Christian recluse (7)
14 Nascent study (6,7)
16 Dirty (7)
18 Intestines (4)
21 Authoritative command (5)
22 Whinny (7)
23 Day before (3)
24 Softened (5)
25 Gothic vaulting ribs (7)

DOWN
1 Jab (4)
2 Cartridge (5)
3 With influential friends (4,9)
4 Large stove (5)
5 With a good view (2,3,8)
6 Variant (7)
7 Made less tight (8)
13 Extremely poisonous (8)
15 Minority group (7)
17 Winding stair pillar (5)
19 Symbol (5)
20 Semi-circular street (4)

SOLUTION TO No 198
ACROSS: 1 Lights 5 Mumble 8 Tee 9 Minder 10 Locust 11 Tyro 12 Toadflax 14 Hypochondriac 17 Swelling 19 Seta 21 Dry rot 23 Teasel 24 Lei 25 Severe 26 Exeunt
DOWN: 2 Icily 3 Hydrofoil 4 Stretch 5 Melba 6 Mac 7 La Scala 13 Fare stage 15 Yew tree 16 Nightie 18 Istle 20 Then 22 Rue

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FRIDAY PAGE

Spare Rib Outwrite link

Newsheets from the battlefront

Rachel Cullen looks at the feminist press and the impact it has on the thinking of women

Most women these days are, at least in a lukewarm and personal fashion, feminists. We demand responsibility for our own tax returns, make informed choices about the birth of our babies, raise hell over sexual harassment at work. And raising our awareness even further are the myriad feminist magazines that have appeared over the last decade.

Mostly their circulations are small, but there are so many that collectively they make quite an impact. The more amateurish or *outré* spring up and wilt before wholefood collectives or Polytech libraries have even caught up with them, but some are stayers. *Spare Rib* has been around for more than ten years and has burrowed its way into the lives of women who at one time would not have dreamed of looking inside its covers. It sells 30,000 copies a month and distribution is erratic. In rural areas just getting hold of a copy can be quite a task. Even so, feminist magazines are becoming more available throughout the country as women's groups proliferate.

There are special interest publications for women working in the arts, for lesbians, there are those that drip with magic and matriarchy, those devoted to feminist poetry and some so radical that their editors forbid showing them to men.

Almost all of them make extensive use of readers' letters, which are fascinating reading. Ten years ago the letters were either horror stories of male oppression or, more commonly, fan-mail of the "Dear Sisters, without this mag my life would be a desert" variety.

While there is still plainly quite a lot of male oppression for sisters to share, the gushing praise has given way to violent argument and frequent threats to cancel subscriptions. It is as bewildering as intruding on a major family row, and as compulsive.

Feminist Zionists are at the throats of feminist pro-Palestinians, black radicals are refusing offers of solidarity from white, lesbian and heterosexual women and each feel that the others get more sympathy from the women's press. There is evident pain and hurt in the thrashing out of these issues, which are seen as dangerous dividers of women and potential destroyers of the Cause.

In political terms within the Women's Liberation Movement these divisions may well be dynamite, but the fury of the quarrels has given to British feminist magazines an acid vitality that is missing in more cosy transatlantic publications.

Big Mama Rag, available in this country is a tabloid newspaper published in Denver, Colorado. Despite the exotic charm of advertisements for the Boulder Lesbian and the Big Mountain Survival Gathering the editorial tone is positively cosy.

Big Mama Rag is destributed free to all women prisoners in American goals. I cannot help wondering what they make of its clubby tone.

There was a time when all the British editorial collectives (these periodicals all seem to be produced by co-operatives) consisted of women called Liz, Maggi and Anni, all very middle-class though evidently liberated from their Royalist mothers. This led to alliances between the primary loyalty of the magazine and other worthy, liberal, middle-class causes.

The explosive arrival of black and working-class women into feminism is changing this, but it lingers in some magazines such as *Sequel*, "A non-profit, bi-monthly magazine for isolated lesbians". It clearly fulfils a need, and its short stories, poems and cartoons are streets ahead of the polemic that passes for art in most feminist circles.

All the same its readers are reminded inside the front cover that "*Sequel* reflects our support of ecology, the animal liberation movement and we encourage vegetarianism and veganism". There may somewhere be a journal for meat-eating lesbians who use shampoos tested on rabbits, but I have not come across it.

Divisiveness on this level is a vicarage garden party compared with the splits along lines of class and race that are threatening to tear apart even the long-established *Spare Rib*. One minor mercy in this bitter wrangle is that the readers of the magazines are too furious to tinker about with language in a way once obligatory: the irritating fashion is fading whereby history became always 'herstory' and women were called "wombyn" or "wimmin" or simply "♀♀" in order to avoid puffing the oppressor.

The hard world of radical feminism, as reflected in its press, is becoming harder. In the early days of the movement, women banded together spontaneously, held by the excitement of fighting self-evident wrongs. Growing consciousness of the horrific plight of their sisters in the Third World, who suffer genital mutilation in the Sudan, are shot in Iran and starve in India, has led to a left-wing internationalist political stance in the magazines that is not always shared by white women who feel themselves to be second-class citizens in Kettering or Cumbernauld.

Feminists who have given birth to sons find themselves resenting "women and girl-children only" rules at Women's Liberation conferences and parties; last year the radical WIRES (The Women's Information, Referral and Enquiry Service), which is not allowed to be shown to men, had stormy quarrels in its letters pages over whether feminists should even rear their own boy children or hand them over to men to look after.

WIRES makes good reading, thrashing out as it does from issue to issue its readers' views on these thorny corollaries of radical feminism. Their women-only policy I have some sympathy with, having once shown a copy to a sympathetic, gentle, feminist sort of man who then spent the rest of the day vilifying it. But when I telephoned them, however, to get a good quote from the collective explaining the benefits of banning men from reading it, they flew into a collective tizzy and have never phoned back. O male readers of *The Times*, I will not defy their wishes and quote bits of their articles for you to scorn: but, female readers, you could do worse then send for a copy and have your ideas shaken up a bit.

One real problem of the internationalist anti-racialist sisterhood is that it makes for heavy political reading. Many women have opted out into magical matriarchy, which is obviously great fun but a lot less justifiable.

It ranges from the simplistic to the complex. Some preach giving up the feminist uniform of jeans and clogs that is seen as "making an act of solidarity with the late patriarchal world". Matriarchists are not conventionally left-wing, for they see Marxism as reformist tinkering within a context of the male power that they seek to overthrow. These women call for a return to long dresses, long hair and head-coverings for themselves and their sisters, though before the Ayatollahs welcome them with open arms they should examine the ideology which underlies the dress.

This is expounded at length in *The Coming Age*, a quarterly publication which announces itself as "The Definitive Introduction to Matriarchy and the Feminine Tradition". The theology synthesizes Egyptian, Cretan and British Iron Age images with Mary, Amazons and putative goddesses from Irish prehistory. There is rebirth with future lives shaped by actions in this life; there is a creation myth telling how the Dark Mother shaped all things. There are Jungian archetypes and Platonic Ideas; there is a Daughter of God who was born, died and rose again

Wacky nonsense like this is gaining adherents daily, with rolling bandwagons offering "metamorphic therapy" to unleash female power and every variety of fortune-telling and guidance from the moon.

It is easy for *Private Eye* to fill its "loony feminist nonsense" slot, and it is harder to give reasons why there should be publications for women who possibly have nothing in common but gender. Yet despite all the public quarrelling in the feminist press over the importance of class, race, education or sexual orientation as promoters of divisiveness, there is an underlying wish in women's publications to transcend the divisions.

There is already very little that unifies all the magazines that trade under the feminist umbrella and they may well be drawing further apart to service odd splinter groups. Perhaps they have already served their more general purpose by at least inspiring some radical commitment in the common herd.

TALKBACK

'Meal ticket' in bad taste

From Mrs Virginia Smith, 16 Magazine Place, Leatherhead, Surrey.

Re Comment "Meal Tickets – the Law will Provide" (Friday Page, November 4) I find the expression "meal ticket" distasteful.

On divorce, my marital home was sold. My half of the proceeds was put down as a deposit on a smaller house for me and our two daughters, of whom I was given care and control. My maintenance is paid in the form of the mortgage repayments as this was the only way I could purchase a home for us. I have worked full-time since before the divorce.

With unemployment as it is, our daughters may live at home for some years to come. Is it really going to help them if we have to leave our home once the youngest is 16?

I have bought up the children of the marriage virtually single-handed. Why should their father be given leave to cast off all responsibility towards them? They go on existing.

Industrial relations

From John Harper, Peter Ambrose and Richard Pemberton, The University of Sussex Falmer, Brighton

Our research into the effects of divorce on men adds weight to the need for industry and commerce to support the study of the causes of marital breakdown".

In our sample of 92 men, two-thirds assessed the effects on their work as serious or disastrous, mostly due to problems of stress-related ill health and accommodation. A quarter of these judged the effects to be permanent.

Over half the men rated their work colleagues and employers as particularly helpful and supportive with the low level of value attached to the official helping agencies, not approached by many men.

We argue that more attention should be given to using the workplace to provide primary support advice and information and as a point of referral for more serious cases. It is evident that many mens' problems worsen the longer they suffer in silence and the long-term costs to them and to their employers increase proportionately.

How to dismantle a marriage without the bitterness


Wendy Holle

David and Jane, a nice, handsome, middle-class couple living in stockbroker-belt Surrey, had been divorced the day I interviewed them. They had been to court that morning for a judge to grant a decree nisi and to ratify a joint agreement over the future of their two children. But only a few weeks ago such an amicable settlement seemed impossible. They were, in David's words, well on the road to a long, bitter, and expensive High Court battle.

At the turn of the year, Jane had said she wanted a divorce, so that she could marry someone else. For David it was "a bolt from the blue – divorce was always something that happened to other people". But they were both determined to do the best for their children – to try to reach an agreement over them first, before arguing about the house and the money. However, they quickly found this laudable aim obscured as the legal process swung into action.

"One quickly reaches the stage where one doesn't trust the other", Jane says. "The formal language used by the solicitors seems to make it all worse, somehow."

There was conflict over the children's education. David wanted them to go to private schools; the eldest is already at a boarding school. Another difference arose over the question of which parent the children should live with. Jane's solicitor was against her giving up care and control of their eldest son. In spite of their determination not to let the divorce affect the children, their wrangling was beginning to upset them, too.

"If we had gone on to fight a court battle over them it would have been dreadful", David says. "As it was, our eldest son was getting worried. He heard at school about things like welfare reports from other children whose parents had divorced. I think he half expected a judge to come swooping in through the door wearing long robes and a funny cap."

David's solicitors suggested they should consult the Surrey Family Conciliation Service at Dorking. Neither at that stage knew it existed. They went separately, then together. Within a few weeks they had come to a written arrangement that satisfied them both.

According to Sue Gilpin, their counsellor, they both basically wanted the same sort of thing for their children but, as with so many well-meaning parents, the emotional upheaval caused by the rift made it very difficult for them to find common ground.

Jane and David think a court hearing would have produced an agreement similar to that reached through conciliation – but at an appalling cost in terms of bitterness as well as money.

The Government, however, has yet to be convinced that organizations such as the Surrey Family Conciliation Service should be given financial backing. In the past few years about 40 conciliation groups have sprung up around Britain.

The "out of court" conciliation services are independent of the legal process, and those who run them believe they provide a more humane and possibly cheaper way of dealing with the custody and access disputes arising from 160,000 divorces a year.

Bruce Pearce is a divorce court welfare officer who helped found the Surrey service and is chairman of the National Family Conciliation Council, which provides training for counsellors. He is trying to persuade the Government to support the fledgling conciliation services.

"The way we treat children in divorce is really quite primitive," he says. The only requirement is that the judge sees the parents, often it's only one parent, before he gives the decree nisi. If there is a dispute over custody and access he may ask for a welfare report. But the damage has probably already been done. There may have been months or years of wrangling."

Last summer a report on conciliation for the Lord Chancellor, prepared by an interdepartmental committee, poured cold water on the idea of any central funding for-out-of-court conciliation services. Instead it gave tentative support to the idea of "in court" conciliation and suggested funding pilot schemes. "In court" schemes already exist in some areas, but they are not the answer, according to Bruce Pearce.

Many of the cases the Surrey service sees may not go through the courts at all. According to Bruce Pearce, parents who do not have custody of their children often consult a counsellor. They are worried that they may be supplanted in their child's affections by a new mother or father.

Other couples are confused by the legal jargon and do not understand the meaning of terms like "joint custody" or "reasonable access".

With an out-of-court conciliator, couples like David and Jane can resolve their differences without feeling they are being forced into anything, or that one side is "winning" or "losing".

The main problem facing the conciliation services is finance. Most run on a shoestring. Clients pay a booking fee (£2 in the case of Surrey) and the service relies on that and on donations.

But the unkindest cut of all has been delivered by the Inland Revenue. Tax inspectors are challenging the charitable status of some of the conciliation services. This could effectively cut off the flow of funds.

Maggie Drummond

No more need to fear a wasp sting

MEDICAL BRIEFING



Wasp stings, although painful and unpleasant, are not usually dangerous. But there are people who suffer a severe allergic reaction to a wasp sting: symptoms may range from a high fever to general swelling and difficulty in breathing. Tragically, several people die every year as a result of a sting.

For nearly a decade, techniques have been available for desensitizing these vulnerable people but, since the process involves introducing the natural venom into the bloodstream, it must be done extremely carefully.

Work in Holland with 11 patients with previous experience of a severe allergic reaction to wasp stings, reported in the *British Medical Journal*, has shown that initial desensitization can be completed in as little as six hours. During such a period the patients were injected with venom to four wasp stings but, apart from local swelling and pain at the injection spot, their temperatures did not even rise.

Four weeks later, the patients bravely agreed to have wasps placed under their arms. The treatment gave complete protection two years later, although the group had received regular boosters, all were still safe. Five of the group had been stung in two years but they were no more affected than "normal" people.

The researchers now say they have successfully treated 60 patients, for both wasp and bee stings, but they are still puzzled why their patients do not suffer a massive generalized reaction when the venom is introduced in such a short space of time.

Unsettling

Replacing an employee who breaks down while working abroad can cost a company as much as £50,000, so finding the right person for the job and checking that he or she is fit is much more important than when filling a post in Britain.

Stress when working abroad is a comparatively new area of medical research. A symposium on the in the subject was held in London recently, but there is only one published study, from the United States in 1979, which suggested that as many as 30 per cent of employees do not finish their contracts because of illness.

Dr Ricky Caplan, senior registrar in psychiatry at St George's Hospital, south London, has just started a study, which is to last about three years, to discover how 50 couples cope with living and working overseas. But he has already come across companies which care little for the welfare of their staff and as many as 70 per cent of those employees return home before their contracts expire. At the other end of the scale, companies which provide support for their employees are unlikely to lose more than 10 per cent of staff through physical or emotional illness, he believes.

"When people start new jobs at home they have friends and family to turn to when they are under stress, but this network doesn't exist abroad. People have to cope with the new job, a change in lifestyle and a strange culture," Dr Caplan observes.

Good companies, he adds, make arrangements to ensure that new employees settle in well and are introduced to other expatriates as soon as they arrive.

Dr Caplan gives one illustration of why it is important not to underestimate the pressures of working abroad. It comes from a study of admissions to the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London. The survey revealed that nearly 50 per cent of patients suffered from psychosomatic illness – rather than any obscure ailment picked up during their temporary exile.

Wall of wax



Dirty ears are the bane of many a mother's life, but parents should take heart from a recent report in the *British Medical Journal*. Over-zealous cleaning of children's ears with cotton-tipped swabs can cause more problems than it solves.

Dr Peter Baxter, now of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, surveyed 111 children in south-west London. He found that in 41 cases the view into the ear was obscured by dense waxy plugs. Ninety per cent of these children had had their ears cleaned with swabs, while those of the other 10 per cent were cleaned less vigorously with flannels or fingers.

Cotton-tipped swabs may actually push the wax deeper into the ear. The plugs, moreover, can be very irritating for the children, but, more seriously, they block the view of the tympanic membrane – the outer skin shield of the main ear mechanism. This makes it extremely difficult for a doctor or nurse to tell whether there are any problems. Many children suffer from middle ear infections which may cause temporary deafness but, if a plug is there, it is almost impossible to determine whether the deafness is caused that or whether there is a hidden infection.

Dr Baxter's advice is: Never push a cotton-tipped swab into the centre of the ear. He would also like warnings on swab packets to be changed from advice against "entering" or "inserting into" the "ear canal" to more strongly worded statements telling users to avoid using the swabs on the ears.

Niven appeal

The David Niven appeal for the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA), launched last month by Douglas Fairbanks Junior and Anthony Quayle is going well, although the response so far has not been overwhelming, according to its organizers.

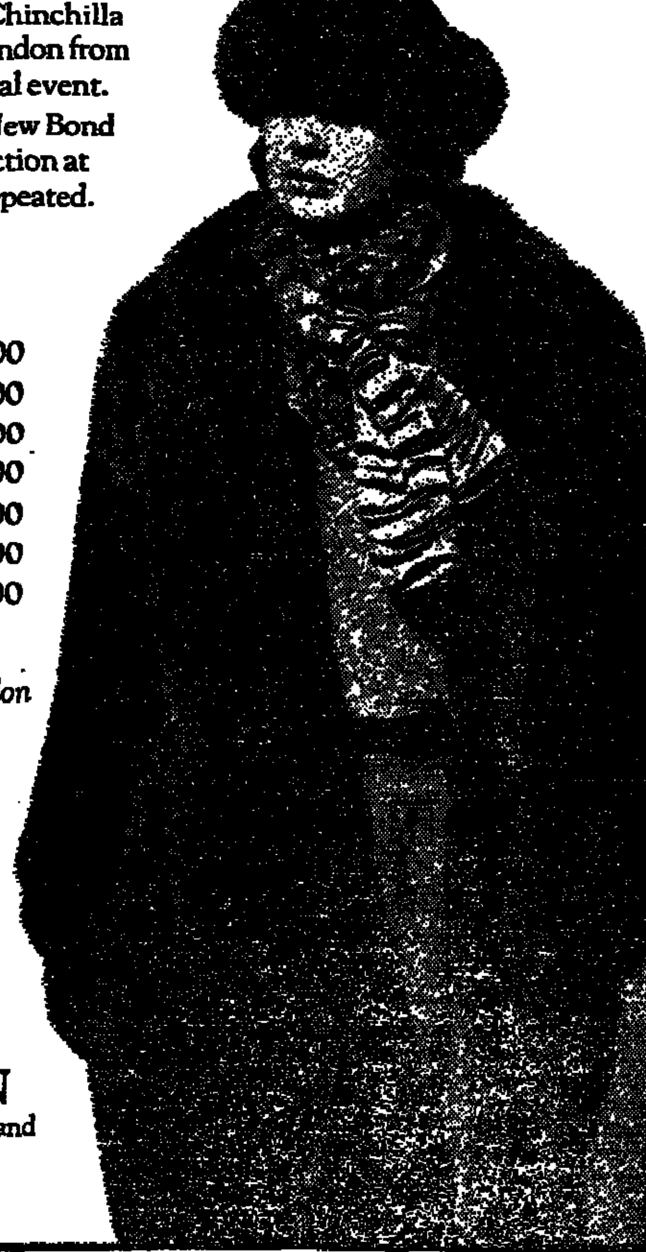
The appeal aims to raise £250,000 by Christmas to help sufferers and promote research into the disease from which the actor died last July. About 6,000 people in this country suffer from it.

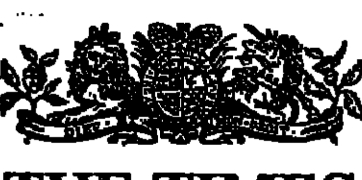
Motor neurone disease is a degenerative illness of the nerve-cells responsible for muscle control. Its victims are normally people in middle and old age, and there is no known cure.

Some evidence suggests that the disease could be caused by a virus. Many sufferers, for example, had polio at a younger age. Dr F. Clifford Rose, the MNDA's medical patron, has found that an antiviral agent can prevent twitching in some patients. Part of the research funds will be allotted to a further eximination of this reaction, he says.

Other evidence suggests that people with motor neurone disease could lack elements vital to their body's biochemistry, or that there could be environmental causes. One hundred times more sufferers than anywhere else in the world are found on Guam in the South Pacific, for example. Tapioca cooked in a traditional manner there has been shown to contain a high percentage of cyanide, which is a possible cause of the high incidence of the disease.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser





THE TIMES DIARY

All the hacks that fit

Now that the Caribbean seems to be an almost permanent hotspot, it's good news for the Cuban economy. The Grenadian episode brought 120 western journalists to the Havana Riviera Hotel, all needing rooms, meals, telephones, telex machines and elbow-room at the bar. More hard currency was handed over by the television crews of the four major US networks and our own Channel 4 News and BBC 2's Newsnight, who handed over wads of dollars for office and studio facilities at the Cuban television station's headquarters and for satellite communications with which to bounce their reports back to New York and London. The total media bill is thought to be $200,000 (about £133,000).

● Please do not feel ill while staying at the Hotel Bayerischerhof Munich. A doctor will visit at any time, it is true, but the hotel brochure promises "liquidation after agreement".

Pram's a sham

Nigerians are so reluctant to give up the good life in the face of falling oil revenues that they have developed smuggling into an art form. Videos, for example, come into the country by the container load, marked as baby-carriages. President Shehu Shagari is so concerned that he is setting up a Ministry of National Guidance to implement an "ethical reorientation programme". Economic sabotage, which also includes corruption and fraud, has not only become institutionalized, he says, but is "fast becoming a business pursuit in our country".

BARRY FANTONI



'Surely this can only mean more cuts?'

Long runner

The yellow 1934 Daimler, owned by the *Spectator's* proprietor, Algy Cluff, and offered to the winner of that magazine's current competition, had not been driven for several years when it was taken out of storage and marked First Prize. On examination, its big end was found to be faulty. This has now been repaired and the motor car is in perfect running order.

Backing Brittan

Having been severely criticized for his muddled speech during the Commons debate on capital punishment, Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, slightly redeemed himself with an altogether more fluent discourse on law and order at his party's Blackpool conference last month. This speech might well have been a disaster, too, if Brittan had been allowed to have his way. He had planned, in his peroration, to protect, "at any cost", not public order or safety, but private property. Luckily, he was persuaded by more experienced hands that this was not the sort of thing a minister should say aloud.

Men wage war

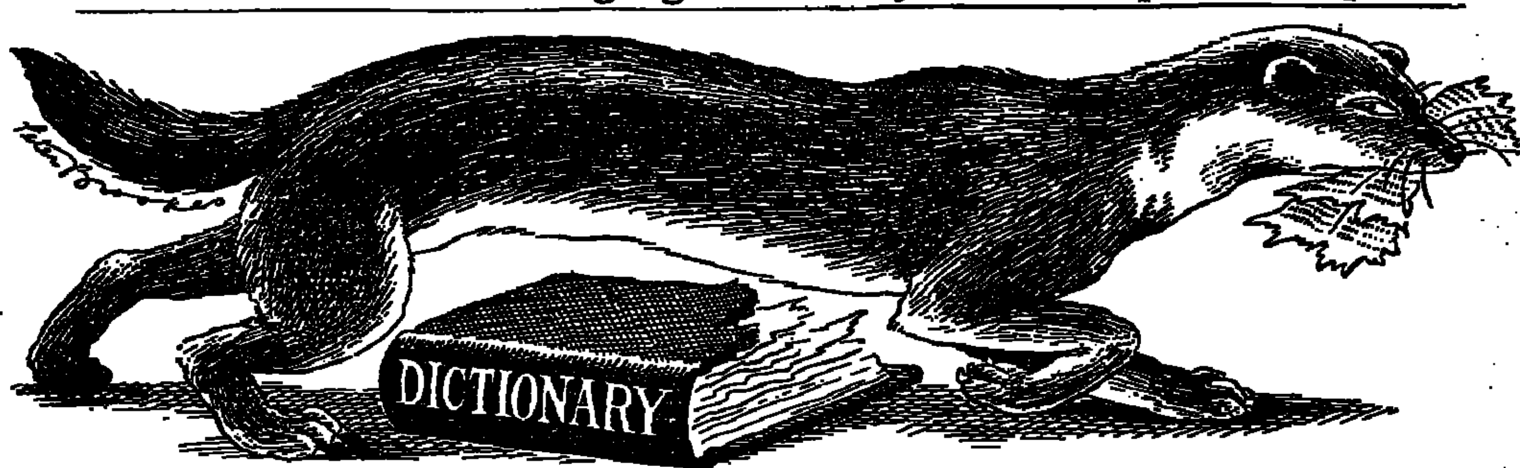
Ominous-sounding news for women workers hoping to challenge inequalities at work under the new equal pay legislation, due to come into force next January 1: the impression one gets from a document issued by Hambro Housley Legal Protection Ltd is that the nation's businessmen will be fighting the new laws to the death. To help them, Hambro Housley is setting up a hot-line to help "the hard-pressed businessman" fight off aggressive females armed with a copy of the pertinent regulations. In case this presents a too-depressing picture, Hambro Housley admits that "some companies will suffer less than others from this latest piece of emloyment legislation".

On a loser

Last week, it was reported on our financial pages that in 1980, a goodish year for aviation insurance, Syndicate 862 lost £17,000 for every £10,000 of premium income written. Some of the more heavily committed syndicate members, including jockey Lester Piggott, have as a result lost more than £50,000. While other members are threatening to reach for their solicitors, Piggott has not so far complained. This is perhaps out of loyalty to Mr Charles St George, chairman of the Oakeley Vaughan Agency. This is the outfit that managed the hapless Syndicate 862 when it achieved a 170 per cent loss while the Lloyds Aviation market as a whole was turning in respectable profits. Ten years ago, Piggott owed one of his most famous victories to Mr St George's horse Rheingold, which he rode to a splendid victory in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

PHS

How 'social' abuses the language: F. A. Hayek on Newspeak exemplified



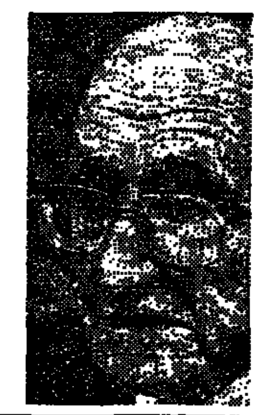
Beware this weasel word

The adjective "social" is probably the most confusing and misleading term of our whole political vocabulary, a sort of verbal magic wand. It came to be widely used about 100 years ago, but may be traced back to that source of all evil J. J. Rousseau's *Contrat Social*, where the word "social" appears as an essential part of the rhetorical substitute for traditional morals.

The role which the word has since come to play in guiding English thought was brought vividly home to me when, in that most helpful *Fontana Dictionary of Modern Thought* (1977), I found the entry Soap Opera appropriately followed by no fewer than 35 entries for "social" something or other, from "social action" to "social whole", and, my attention aroused by this, a few days' reading brought well over 100 further influential uses of the word.

It is indeed difficult to say whether one ought to conclude that "social" has acquired as many different meanings as to become useless as an instrument of communication, or that it has become altogether meaningless. Yet the position is really much worse. Not only has the term itself lost any clear meaning; it has also acquired the probably unique capacity to deprive any other word with which it is associated of content. It has in fact become the most dangerous instance of what after Shakespeare ("I can suck melancholy out of a song, as a weasel sucks eggs", *As You Like It*, II/5) the Americans call a "weasel word". As a weasel is alleged to be able to empty an egg without leaving a visible sign, so can these words deprive any term to which they are prefixed of content, while seemingly leaving them untouched. A weasel word is used to draw the teeth from a concept which one is obliged to employ, but from which one wishes to eliminate all implications that challenge one's ideological premises.

While I know what a market economy is intended to mean, I have no idea what "social market economy" can possibly mean except that the rules of the market are not to be followed. I believe I know fairly well what the *Rechtsstaat* (the German equivalent of the rule of law) is, but I cannot see what *soziale Rechtsstaat* can possibly mean. Democracy used to have a fairly clear meaning, but I have seen "social democracy" as a label for the radical "Austro-Marxism" as well as camouflage for a sort of Fabian socialism. The traditional term for what is now called the "social state" was "despotism", or perhaps "benevolent despotism"; the pretence that the aims of despotism can be achieved democratically, while preserving the freedom of the individual, can also be maintained if the word "democratic" is emasculated into "social democratic".



Friedrich von Hayek, the Austrian economist, won a Nobel Prize in 1974. His work on monetarism has profoundly influenced the policies of Margaret Thatcher's government. This article is taken from work in progress reproduced in *The Salisbury Review*

It would require a separate book to show how much this magic word has in a great variety of connexions misled policy; making proposals seem incontrovertibly good merely by labelling the particular interest which they serve as "social". "Social" has in fact become a class concept, authorizing one class to help itself from the pockets of another, and extending democracy from a device limiting the arbitrary power of a few to a procedure that makes any coercive power legitimate so long as the delegates of the majority think that their decisions will gain additional votes by means of it. Because of this, "social" has in a great measure taken the place of the difficult but important conception of common interest, and is now applied to much that is clearly contrary to any true common interest.

Much the worst of the deceptive uses of "social" is in the phrase "social justice". It is, as a distinguished man much more courageous than I bluntly expressed it 25 years ago, "a semantic fraud from the same stable as People's Democracy" (Charles Curran, *The Spectator*, July 4, 1958).

The alarming extent to which the term has already perverted the thinking of the younger generation is illustrated by a recent Oxford doctor's thesis on *Social Justice* (David Miller, 1976). The author barely notices the traditional conception of justice, his attitude to which is typified by the remark that "there appears to be a category of 'private justice' which concerns the dealings of man with his fellows when he is not acting as a participant in one of the major social institutions". Throughout the thesis, justice is consistently treated anthropomorphically, as the manner in which a personified "society" "treats" the different individuals who belong to it. The fact is that "society" would not exist, nor would most of its members be alive, if their relative income were determined by this second kind of "justice". The product to feed them would normally be available only in conditions which also determine its distribution.

It is as meaningless to call this spontaneous distribution unjust as it would be to call it just. It is simply not capable of bearing such an attribute. Only human actions can be just or unjust; the task of government cannot be to create just conditions, but only to prevent unjust actions. To describe as just or unjust a state of affairs that men have not and could not have created, and to which most of them owe their existence, is giving expression to fantasies in socialist baby language. It would indeed be pleasing to our feelings if the world had been made by an almighty spirit whose views about what is desirable were the same as ours. But our present wisdom is not ultimate wisdom and if it had guided evolution, we should never have climbed down from the trees.

A product of evolution can only be preserved by the same process of continuous adaptation to unforeseen circumstances as that which had produced it in the first place. Evolution cannot be just, since it operates by giving people what they did not foresee or intend. All evolution is the result of chancing blindly on a modification of conduct better adapted to objective conditions than the traditional ones. To believe that one can improve this by assigning appropriate rewards to those who do best, is to presume that we are already as wise as only yet further experience can make us. If for the last two or three hundred years a government had effectively enforced the prevailing conceptions of "social justice", civilization – and the number of people which it maintains – could never have appeared.

Of course, a consistent socialism emphasizes that only if we could give a supreme authority unlimited power to force the individuals to do what this authority thinks to be desirable could anything like social justice be achieved. That this would deprive us of the main source of our capacity to rear and maintain millions is disregarded. The great illusion is that freedom and just distribution can be combined. Communism is in this regard at least logically consistent, while democratic socialism is simply muddled.

David Watt

Links that bind but do not tie down

Writing about the Grenada affair two weeks ago, I argued that we had been given another painful demonstration of the need for better machinery within the Western Alliance for coping with crises outside the Nato area. It is an old theme of mine that these misunderstandings will continue to tear us apart unless and until the Europeans and Americans can offer each other a fair exchange in relation to third world instability; on the European side, responsible cooperation; and on the American, genuine consultations.

Since then Kenneth Dam, the US Deputy Secretary of State, has come and gone on his placatory mission to Downing Street and events in Lebanon have blown his soothing words straight back into his face. Mrs Thatcher has told him that she does not think that a punitive American raid, with the Israelis, on the alleged perpetrators of the attack on the US Marines would be wise at the moment when a conference of the Lebanese parties is making a desperate attempt in Geneva at a settlement.

Mr Dam was obliged to say that he noted her views but could give no assurance that the President would take a bit of notice of what she said. What is more, he could not give her any guarantees that the US would not allow the resumption of arms sales to Argentina – which is as if she had remarked to him that the British Government were considering the early export of explosives to the Syrians and possibly old lorries to carry them in.

On the face of it all this underlines the original point. Our relationship with the US is clearly in difficulties if this kind of chilly and superficial exchange is *the* best consultation that can be achieved. Yet there are other legitimate ways of looking at the matter.

Two main lines of attack on my original thesis have come to light. The first is the pragmatic Establishment position, which has been wearily explained to me by politicians and bureaucrats of more than one party and more than one department. It goes something like this: "For years and years we have been trying to improve consultation, and since the Afghanistan fiasco we have redoubled our efforts. As a result, Nato (and even the French within Nato) now permits itself to discuss these matters. The seven-nation summits deliberate upon them. The 'Berlin' powers (the US, Britain, France and West Germany) use their meetings as a tactful cover for a 'Directorate' to argue over them. There are endless consultations through the Washington embassies. There are *ad hoc* groups such as the meeting in Paris last week of the foreign ministers of countries contributing to the peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

"It has resulted in a great deal of contingency planning and a reasonable certainty that if anything happens in a way which we have foreseen, we shall know how the land lies. What we have not covered – nobody can cover – is those events which we did not foresee or which do not turn out the way we expect (which is to say many, if not most of the outcomes in the real world) and those areas where there is an irreducible divergence of opinion or interest between the US and ourselves."

This is not much comfort but it is a useful definition of the problem in that it limits the area of Alliance disagreement a little. The US action in Grenada, for example, can be assigned to the first category and by these means defused. The American story ("request from the Caribbean states came very late; President had to make up his mind very fast; we told you more than we told our own Congress but wish we'd had time for more; terribly sorry") is pretty thin in one or two obvious spots but, given a bit of benevolent credulity on our part, it will just about serve.

On the other hand, that experience showed how much damage these unexpected occurrences can wreak; and the Lebanese case indicates that where there is a serious divergence the US is likely to go ahead anyway.

It is this last factor that prompts the other attack – on my assertion that we ought to overhaul the consultative mechanism: "Maybe you are right in principle that we can get more consultation from the Americans if we are prepared to take more joint responsibility with them. But in the last resort (and often long before the last resort, because of the nature of the American policy-making machine) the US will act on its own.

"This means that if we get any closer to the Americans we shall become more than ever implicated in their designs and identified with them in the face of world opinion without any real compensating control over their actions. It is better to keep a bit aloof and leave them to reap the consequences of their own follies. Indeed, so far as we really want to help the Alliance we may be in a better position to pick up the pieces if we are not part of the herd that trampled through the china shop."

This again is all very well, but, like the first objection, leaves too many holes. Can we really maintain US support in Europe if we, the Europeans, are not willing to be involved outside Europe? And in the extraordinary dangerous circumstances of today where a world conflagration could easily flare out of regional conflict, is not some consultation with the US, even if inadequate, better than none? It is too early, as I write, to be sure whether British and French advice on the Lebanon will be heeded; but isn't it true that if we had not taken the risk of exposing a detachment of British soldiers to the hazards of the crisis and the criticisms of Enoch Powell, we should have had no standing in the Lebanon argument whatever?

It seems to me that these arguments do indeed show that there is a point at which the law of diminishing returns sets in. In other words, one cannot hope to tie down a superpower at evey point as the Lilliputians did Gulliver. Further interests are involved. The Americans will ultimately break loose whatever the rights and wrongs of the argument; and there is no point in completely destroying our own freedom of action in order to produce this result. And yet the Grenada affair and the shadow of what might happen in the Gulf if, say, the Iranians blocked the Straits of Hormuz, suggests that consultation could be quite a lot better without being unrealistic. Whether the present US administration, or indeed the present European governments, are prepared to make necessary compromises is another question.

Bryan Appleyard on the struggle behind the scenes for control of state subsidies

Early next week the 250 recipients of annual Arts Council subsidies will receive a rather odd letter. Destined to be known as The Ilkley Letter it was conceived at a three-day brainstorming session at the Craiglands Hotel, Ilkley, to which the members of the council retreated last month to confront the future.

The bemused managements of theatres, orchestras, opera and ballet companies will be asked what would happen to them if (a) their subsidy was withdrawn or drastically cut or (b) if it was substantially increased. They must reply by the end of the year and by March 31 next year the council will have drawn its conclusions to be acted upon in 1985-86.

They should consider their answers carefully because this strange, oblique approach represents perhaps the most important new direction since the Arts Council was founded almost 40 years ago. It comes at the end of one difficult year for the council and marks the beginning of another. The outcome will either be a successful defence of the council's traditions of welfare-inspired crusading on behalf of the arts and of its belief in the separation of central government from the creativity it supports – or it will be their defeat.

Although the official council line is that The Ilkley Letter is a logical development which would have happened anyway, it is directly related to three major documents which have emerged from Westminster over the past year.

The first was the Select Committee report on *Public and Private Funding of the Arts*, published in October 1982. This began well for the Arts Council with its enthusiastic endorsement of the centrality of the arts in British life and their economic importance. Their turnover was estimated at about £1,000m and they were thought to employ at least 200,000 people. More advanced statistical analysis has since suggested that, when broadcasting, publishing and all ancillary industries are brought in, the true turnover may be as high as £3,000m.

The bad news followed. The report had serious doubts about the present structure of the council. It recommended significant levels of devolution to the regions and away from the headquarters at 105 Piccadilly. It also called for funds for the national arts companies to be previously earmarked by the Government, removing a large part of the council's ability to control its own destiny. The response from 105 ranged from the unenthusiastic to the bitter.

Then came the government scrutiny of the financial affairs of the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Again the scrutineer, Clive Priestley, began with the good news: neither





Lord Gowrie, aiming for a ministry with muscle? Right, Rees-Mogg and Rittner, fighting for their future

Ilkley: the art of hitting back

organization was unduly profligate, both were underfunded and both were central to our way of life. But... Priestley floated the idea of direct funding of the national companies without any Arts Council involvement. That would mean slicing off the four peaks of the pyramids of excellence – the RSC, the ROH, the National Theatre and the English National Opera – leaving the council with the remainder. That would mark the end of its role as sole guardian of the great and good in British arts and an end to the precious "arm's length" principle which has supposedly kept politics out of the arts. Lord Goodman, the arch representative of the old school of arts subsidy thinking, demanded Priestley's scrutineers left at once when he discovered them at a Covent Garden board meeting. He was too late.

Finally along came *Streamlining the Cities*, the White Paper outlining the Government's plans for abolition of the top tier local authorities. This would leave dozens of arts organizations without local subsidies, so the Government was obliged to come up with specific alternative funding proposals.

Again the inhabitants of 105 were dismayed. One describes the proposals as "Option Z – a fallback position that is so far back it is out of sight," another more succinctly labelled them as "absolute bloody nonsense." In essence the proposals singled out nine performing arts companies and five museums and art galleries as being of national importance. These would receive an increase in central support. As for the rest they would have to seek local authority money and commercial sponsorship to carry on.

"There is great scope for entrepreneurial initiative in this field", remarked the government drafter with a consummate blandness that caused apoplexy at 105. The point is, they say, that there is no compulsion on local authorities to take up the financial slack, and commercial sponsorship is simply not the goldmine the Government appears to believe.

In this apocalyptic context the Ilkley Letter can be seen as an attempt by the council to take the initiative. It is clear that Sir William Rees-Mogg, the relatively new chairman, and Luke Rittner, the relatively new secretary general, now think the greatest danger lies in doing nothing. The implication of the letter is that the council is, in the words of one member, going to make its grants "leasehold rather than freehold" and is prepared to get tougher in its decision making.

Tony Field, the council finance director, has long advocated this course as the only logical response to a climate in which total funds are either flat or declining. It does, however, put an end to the benign tradition of "response" subsidy which has been so dear to the old hands at 105. "Response" means the council is ready with the cash to apply to new outcrops of creativity as they occur. In the new climate the creativity will have to find its way to the cash.

The present situation also makes it clear that Rees-Mogg and Rittner are far from the Tory party placemen identified in the more hysterical outpourings from the predominantly left-wing Arts Council. They are now fighting for the quality of their future lives as much as anybody else.

Their primary tactic appears to be to attempt to embarrass Lord Gowrie, the Arts Minister. If all the most dire predictions being made come true then he will find *himself* being put down in history as the Arts Minister who presided over a drastic contraction of the subsidized arts

So far he has indicated he does not wish to see the national companies directly *funded*, but he could *still* go for "earmarking" of cash to be channelled through a necessarily passive council. Meanwhile streamlining of the authorities looms larger, although the more wildly optimistic at 105 are pinning their hopes on the belief that it will never happen.

Infinitely preferable to the Cabinet may well be a large element of direct funding, with a slimmed down Arts Council responsible for general and future planning rather than simply struggling to get the cheque out so the curtain may rise at the Bristol Old Vic. Lord Gowrie's move on his appointment in separating the arts from the Department of Education and Science could eventually be seen as the first step along this road to a Ministry of Culture. Senior civil servants have already been heard to refer to the arts as "a mini-ministry."

So the trend is towards taking more of the arts into Whitehall. The Ilkley Letter is an indication that the council has seen the importance of visibly taking charge of its own destiny as a counter to any such moves. It is a morale booster and unifying force at 105. Yet there remain those who persist in seeing a terrible portent in the title of the play the whole council trooped off to see at Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre on the first night of the Ilkley brainstorm – it was *The Dance of Death*.

Philip Howard

Sour grapes about the fruit machines

My heart warmed to Sir Douglas Wass when I heard that he had described one of his political masters as the only man in England who could spend all day reading the *Daily Mail*. To spend even 30 seconds "reading" it is quite enough, except on Thursdays, when the lead (and pretty well the only) book reviewer is a good, perverse read. The trouble I have with the *Mail* is hiding it under the other papers so that I am not spotted by my high-minded neighbours as a shameless *Mail*-reader. I get the ghastly thing only because it is promising to make me a millionaire.

Who wants to be a millionaire? My family has come to the conclusion that the only hope we have of getting a new secondhand car to replace the old war-chariot, which is using a tank of *oil* to a tank of petrol, and making terminal noises of tiredness, is to win one of these competitions in the tabloid press that appeal to our avarice, greed, and other human qualities.

I am well aware that my chances of winning a million are as remote as my chances of singing counter-tenor at Covent Garden or playing striker for England. But if you do not try for such nonsense, you will never be rich.

The trouble is that the various gambling competitions, with silly names such as Bonanza, are of a trivial complexity quite beyond me. I have never had the patience to understand how to work a fruit machine. When given an instruction like, "If any of the numbers below refer to balls that are circled in black on Super Snooker Frame One on your card ..." and carrying on for several paragraphs, the old mind clouds over, I am back at prep school on a hot summer afternoon trying to understand the difference between permutations and combinations, and I decide to forget it. Snooker all those balls circled in black. No doubt it would take Sir Douglas Wass less than all day to work out the jargon of the competitions, but not if he had me beside him making helpful suggestions.

I worry that not only do I not have the gambler's instinct; but I have not the gambler's skills that every other adult in Britain, including readers of the *Daily Mail*, possesses. If they can be bothered, why can't I? If the lodger or a 10-year-old boy can tell at once which wheel on the fruit machine needs to be jogged forward to maximize the chance of a jackpot, why do I have to go into an irrelevant Pythagorean meditation about the rival merits of three strawberries and a row of beans?

One answer to the vexing question is to come up with three sour grapes on the fruit machine. The federated flute-girls' union, pedlars of quack medicines, maharishis and other holy beggars, strippers, comics, watchers of video nasties, and readers of the pops can fill in their football pool coupons. We superior and elite intellectual snobs have better things to do. This does not seem to me a very attractive or persuasive attitude. It must be a weakness to be so hopelessly incompetent at something that absorbs and gives pleasure to so many of one's fellow citizens.

It is all very well to cry that the barbarians are over the Danube. They always have been, dear boy. And moaning about it is not going to change things. I suppose I could take evening classes in competition technique.

I am certainly not going to start reading the horoscopes just to keep up with the barbarians. All astrology is hogwash and piffle, a way of pointing the simple-minded to the stars. I am dismayed by its raging popularity with my intelligent and rational fellow-citizens. To say: "Of course I don't believe in it, but I always have a look at my Stars; just for a laugh", is a betrayal of one's intelligence. It is *la trahison des clercs*. Fruit machines and competitions to make me a millionaire, possibly. Scorpio and the cusps of Virgo, not on your Nostradamus.

The thing to do is to resign oneself to not being a millionaire. The thing to do with barbarians is to civilize them. The Romans did it with notable success to those who came over the Danube. Rome fell; but the Italians, the French, the Spanish, and the others who sprung from the ruins are not notably uncivilized.

THE TIMES

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TEBBIT LAW IS THE LAW

We have not heard the last of the Mercury case. Wednesday's Appeal Court hearing was technically Act Two of a ponderous three-act curtain-raiser. Act Three (scene: The House of Lords) will follow in about three weeks, and the formal presentation of the main drama will not take the stage till well into next year. The judges who have twice considered whether in the meantime to grant Mercury an injunction against blacking by the Post Office Engineering Union have done so by a process of guesswork as to the likely ending of the last Last Act.

The balance of likelihood has been sharply altered by the dramatic courtroom stroke of revealing a job security agreement which casts into doubt the union's claim that its motives were "wholly or mainly" industrial, as the law requires, rather than political. If job security was the real issue, surely the union would at least have mentioned the agreement, if only to ask for it to be strengthened. But whatever the final twist may prove to be, the case already appears for quite another reason to be a significant landmark in the history of relations between trade unions and government. For the POEU has bowed its head to the 1982 Act.

One question has hung over the Government's series of legislative sallies against the privileges of the trade unions: hardly anyone has used them. The new powers enabling aggrieved parties to seek damages from unions engaged in certain kinds of industrial action, which formerly had immunity, have scarcely been resorted to. At the same time the recession has imposed its own curbs on workers' readiness to jeopardise their jobs by striking. Is the fall in the number of disputes due only to this, a phenomenon to be reversed when times improve? Or are the new laws a factor too – available to be invoked even though not actually brought into play? Or would a union defy them if it felt its essential interests were at stake, and perhaps draw the whole movement into a confrontation?

There is no doubt that many POEU members felt that their essential interests were at stake in the Mercury case. The union entered the dispute with all the sense of rectitude of a normally moderate union which is unused to the tactical calculations of industrial warfare, and has recently put its fortunes in the hands of left-wing leaders who voice its sense of grievance. This is a characteristic pattern pointing to an obstinate and destructive – even self-destructive – conflict. The union had cast itself as trail-blazer for the rest of the labour movement, wherever public sector workers were faced with the threat of privatization, and was hoping for support (in funds and sympathetic action) from other unions. But the granting of the injunction has led both executive and delegate conference to vote for a return to work. The penalties of defiance, falling on union funds as well as individuals, were just too heavy.

Closer inspection may make the matter seem rather less clear-cut, but the main point still stands. The union had embarked on its action on terms which were already imposing crippling financial burdens on its resources, while inflicting disappointingly little damage on the employers. The prevailing atmosphere of inhibition on striking for fear of risking one's job may not have directly inhibited the strikers (protected by virtue of the agreement so tardily advertised). But the atmosphere must have helped to create the distinct lack of enthusiasm on the TUC's part to spring to the POEU's aid.

The precedent has been created, and will be influential. The ice has been broken for unions faced with the choice between maintaining the pretence that the Employment Acts are illegitimate and ephemeral interlopers on the statute-book, or bowing to the law, so as to protect union funds. It is for Parliament to make laws, as it is for it to make policy about the privatization of public enterprises. If this week's ruling stands, and unions are prevented from using their industrial power with the principal purpose of obstructing those policies – a political purpose – that is as it should be. Politics can seldom be absent from public sector disputes, but it should not predominate, and the courts should be ready to ensure that it does not. The tradition of British trade unionism is to respect the law and work within it, and the POEU has acted in the spirit of that tradition: even Tebbit law is law when Parliament has said so.

TOGETHERNESS IN BONN

There is a very comfortable feel about Anglo-German relations at the moment, as Mrs Thatcher found on her visit to Bonn this week. On the personal level she gets on much better with Herr Kohl than with his somewhat abrasive socialist predecessor, who had the added disadvantage from her point of view of being her senior in office and not anxious to forget it. Herr Kohl is a relative new boy with an easy personality and less ideological luggage, a sort of German Whitelaw with whom she feels at home, although very different in temperament.

On the political level as well the two conservative governments have drawn closer. Both are determined to press ahead with deployment of the new American missiles as long as there is no agreement in Geneva. Both would be happy to have their numbers reduced if there were an agreement after deployment, though the British are rather more sceptical of the chances of such an agreement. Both leaders have been somewhat bruised by the lack of consultation before the American action in Grenada, and by the boost which this has given to anti-American sentiment. Herr Kohl was not consulted at all, and Mrs Thatcher was consulted but not heeded. But the damage has not gone deep, and Herr Kohl, at any rate, seems unruffled, although the pressure he faces from the protest groups is greater.

Meanwhile in the European Community both countries are net contributors and both are feeling the pinch at home, so there is more agreement than there was on the need for reform. Until recently the Germans, while admitting the need, were very cautious about pressing for real change. Now they seem more likely to join Britain in demanding action.

The Anglo-German relationship has obviously become closer since the Socialist victory in France. Mrs Thatcher admires M Mitterand's foreign policy but the French have become distrustful of Germany, which casts a shadow over relations. It is therefore all the more important that Britain should continue to support West Germany's diplomatic efforts without the same suspicions. The Germans remain wholly loyal to Nato policy and deeply cautious in the pursuit of their own national interest. They share the suspicions of their allies about Soviet aims and are just as committed to maintaining military security. But because they are on the front line and therefore the most vulnerable, and because their nation is divided, they are bound to try harder to prevent East-West tensions deepening the division of Europe.

The fact that in this area the Christian Democrats have continued the policies of the Social Democrats shows that it is as much a question of national interest as of coalition politics. Mrs Thatcher obviously understands this and has herself spoken recently of the need for dialogue, so she has a valuable role to play in helping the Germans to feel less alone.

BRAZIL'S ARMOURY OF DEBT

Last month the Brazilian Congress dramatically rejected Decree Law 2045, which as part of the country's agreement with the International Monetary Fund limited all wage increases to 80 per cent of the rise in the cost-of-living. It has now passed a somewhat less draconian successor, Decree Law 2065, and the Fund and the banks are likely soon to resume lending. The "critical mass" of participators is materialising. This painful process has brought into focus once again the problems posed by a major Latin American debtor nation.

The problems faced are not uniform. Unlike Mexico, Brazil has no oil, and lacks what in current circumstances is the economic advantage of a border with the United States. Brazil has a huge and labyrinthine public sector, and has not always been a straightforward negotiator, but she can argue with greater justification than either Mexico or Argentina that her present position is no simple result of corruption, speculation and mismanagement. Few countries can have made more vigorous efforts in recent years to escape from restraints by finding new exports and new trading partners. These have been vulnerable in recession, and through retaliation some of them will be lost as Brazil restricts her own imports. Brazilian industry, and more particularly Brazil's modernized agriculture, are heavily dependent on imported inputs. The crisis threatens a much more urban, sophisticated and index-conscious society than the one the army took over in 1964.

This is inevitably reflected in politics. President Figueiredo still has extensive powers, and he can invoke emergencies, but he cannot so easily invoke authority. He comes at the end of two decades of military rule, and the political advances of the last years make a return to repression no simple matter, especially at foreign behest. The government is not practised in bargaining, but it faces an opposition that will demand political concessions for what austerity it is prepared to grant.

The Fund and the bankers repeat that they are confident that successive debt-crises can be managed, one at a time. The timing also colours each crisis, and the Brazilians are perhaps unlucky in coming after the Mexicans, who had the good fortune to get into difficulties first and who for the moment appear to be following prescribed courses, and immediately before the Argentines. The International Monetary Fund, far from crisis-free itself, cannot afford loss of authority, though it has shown a large measure of sympathy towards the Brazilian case.

How many of the intentions in Brazil's letter of intent can be fulfilled remains to be seen. The current agreement is a welcome temporary solution, but nobody believes that it is anything more than that. The extent of Brazil's indebtedness, as with Mexico, gives the borrower a conceivable weapon of defence against the demands of the lender. The Brazilians will be negotiating again in a year or so, many observers believe, under a newly-elected government, the first elected government in twenty years. Will the Fund or the bankers or – just as important – the debtors themselves who will all by then have been through a further cycle of rescues in Argentina, in Venezuela, in Chile and Peru, have devised any new thinking to break out of the moral hazard of international debt?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Role of the GLC

From the Leader of Westminster City Council

Sir, GLC Leader Ken Livingstone's assertion (October 31) that the public would be put at risk if the London boroughs take over the licensing of theatres and cinemas is completely ludicrous.

At present, the GLC employs only four inspectors to handle cinema and public entertainment licensing for the whole of Greater London: a certain formula for producing the "patchy and inconsistent" services he claims will result from a London borough takeover.

Compare this completely inadequate provision with Westminster's approach to the licensing of sex shops, with a self-contained unit of lawyers and inspectors, and Mr Livingstone's argument is destroyed.

In a recent interview Mr Livingstone said the general public were not at all interested in entertainment licensing, which he dismissed as "of little importance". This shows how out of touch he is with local London affairs.

Westminster's initiative in producing sex shop licensing legislation was a reflection of local concern at the effects of the industry on community life. Our determined campaigning on this issue has brought benefits not only for London but for the rest of the country and the assumption of responsibility for cinema and public entertainment can only serve to increase the pressure on the sex industry in Soho.

Local control over all aspects of public entertainment is to be welcomed. It is the only way to ensure that community interests are given proper attention.

This is the real point at issue on GLC abolition: closer attention to the individual needs of the boroughs with full financial accountability to the local communities, something that Mr Livingstone's GLC administration has consistently failed to do.

Mr Livingstone claims that individual boroughs' financial situations may affect the level of service they can provide, an argument he consistently puts forward as a reason for keeping the GLC intact. His naive mathematics overlook the fact that hundreds of millions of pounds are given to the GLC every year in local rate precepts, money that could be more usefully directed to local services at less cost to the ratepayers.

Yours sincerely,
SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader,
Westminster City Council,
City of Westminster,
PO Box 240,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1.

Still a need for Crown Agents

From Sir John Cuckney

Sir, Towards the end of the secondary banking crisis in 1974, when I became Senior Crown Agent and Chairman, I inherited an historic and excellent organisation which in one area, and one area alone, was in difficulties: namely, in its own account dealings.

The background to these problems and how they arose has been exhaustively examined, first by the Fay committee appointed in 1975 and reporting in 1977, and secondly by a 1921 Act tribunal of inquiry appointed in 1978 and reporting in 1982.

The most significant issue to emerge from these lengthy and thorough examinations was not what the Crown Agents had done but rather how they could have been allowed to operate in this way at all. However, when reflecting on those unwise investments – even with the benefit of hindsight – we should remember that it is impossible accurately to recreate the atmosphere in which those investment decisions were taken and that there were many reputable financial institutions which were also found wanting during that particular period.

From the time that the 1974 crisis became a public issue and throughout the many years of investigations and reports surrounded by international publicity the Crown Agents' traditional business not only survived but flourished. Recently there has been talk of closure following a setback caused by the loss of one major customer.

I have maintained a keen interest in the Crown Agents' fortunes since leaving in 1978 and I would like to join the Director General of the CBI and others in pleading that they be allowed to continue their unique and valuable service especially to developing countries.

Many small and medium-sized British companies find that the Crown Agents' operations are of great value in their own export efforts. Last year more than 2,400 private companies benefited from nearly £40m of export contracts as a direct result of the Crown Agents' work.

I do not wish to catalogue the varied and valuable services the Crown Agents provide, but must emphasise that much of their work is not immediately quantifiable. Working in over 72 different countries, they have developed good will towards the UK, a predilection for British goods and services and for British standards and expertise.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CUCKNEY,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
November 9.

'Hit list' for university closures

From the General Secretary of the Association of University Teachers

Sir, The creation of a so-called "hit list" for closure of universities is scarcely the most fruitful way of opening up the debate on the future of higher education. Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer (report, November 8) says this is a matter for political decision. The University Grants Committee cannot so neatly sidestep responsibility when the committee is setting the tone for the discussions.

The Secretary of State initiated the debate. He asked for a realistic internal assessment of how standards can be maintained and enhanced. Most universities would agree that such an assessment will depend on the degree of planning they are able to do.

Sir Keith Joseph has pre-empted that planning by suggesting that level funding may not be maintained and universities may have to face a 2 per cent per annum cut in resources over the next five years and a continuous 1 per cent drop for five years after that. In other words, the instability which has bedevilled the university sector over the last five years and which has made sensible planning impossible may continue for the next 10 years and possibly beyond.

Sir Keith's proposition is based on two extremely dubious assumptions. The first is that if the Government withdraws public support for the universities substantial funds will be available from industry, or even from private individuals, to restore the balance. This ignores both the efforts already made by universities to attract such funds, and the unwillingness of private industry to commit capital to long-term projects. How funds for research in the arts, humanities or social sciences will be provided is left in considerable doubt.

The second is the assumption that a substantial drop in the 18-year-old population in the early 1990s will, with only slight modifications, be reflected in the number of qualified entrants to higher education in the same period.

Predictions on the increasing aspirations of women, on the need for continuing education and on social class change, are virtually ignored yet will almost certainly lead to a demand for places that the Department of Education and Science will have no plans to meet. No consideration has been given to the need for skilled graduate manpower to meet the demands of an increasingly technological society.

Both the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals and the Association of University Teachers have produced alternative figures which cast serious doubts on the Department of Education and Science assumptions, yet the framework for debate about the future has been set in the context of the DES assumption of a substantial drop in students.

This debate should really be about whether changes in population should be used by Government merely for the rationalisation of existing resources, or should be seen as a means of improving opportunity for a much wider proportion of the population.

If the new Chairman of the University Grants Committee can grasp that nettle and translate it into positive action he will indeed be providing a service to the country.

Yours faithfully,
DIANA WARWICK,
General Secretary,
Association of University Teachers,
United House,
1 Pembridge Road, W11.
November 9.

Teenage betting

From the Director General of the Betting Office Licensees Association Limited

Sir, We share Dr Moran's view (November 10) that young people under the age of 18 should not be permitted to enter licensed betting offices for the purpose of placing bets. But we fail to see how the Betting Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill, which will have its Second Reading tomorrow, has any bearing on this situation.

The proposed legislation would, as Dr Moran has said, enable 16 and 17 year olds to be employed in licensed betting offices. This, in our view, would be a valuable contribution to tackling a problem of teenage unemployment and would, we submit, have no influence at all on the current restriction on betting by the under 18s.

There has never been any age restriction on employees in credit betting offices and Dr Moran will be pleased to learn that youngstoers under the age of 18 have regularly been employed in such establishments without problems of any kind being encountered.

It should be fully understood that the proposed legislation is a general enabling Bill, and that before television, soft drinks or anything else could be introduced into betting offices the Secretary of State would have to make provision by order which would be subject to veto in either House.

If, for example, television was introduced and found to be unsuitable it could just as easily be removed again.

In the early days of betting offices, the restrictions which are still with us now probably were justified. Since then, however, the betting industry has come of age and has shown its willingness and ability to accept its social responsibilities. Today's Bill is no more than recognition of this

Yours faithfully,
TOM KELLY, *Director General,*
Betting Office Licensees Association Limited,
Devonshire House,
1 Devonshire Street, W1.
November 10.

The peace movement

From Ms Sarah Haskins

Sir, A low standard of journalism is now expected from papers such as the *Sun* and *Daily Star*, but surely not *The Times?* And not just on any page, but in the leader? Your comment (November 3) that "credit must also be given to the women of Greenham Common, his (Mr Heseltine's) most reliable allies in the battle for middle opinion" and that it was "ungrateful of him ... to appear to be ready to shoot them" must surely go down in the records as one of your paper's most patronising and, yes, sickeningly pompous, remarks in its long history.

The Times has always, it seems to me, set itself as the leader in the thinking man's daily reading matter, the paper our intellectual and other leaders, captains of industry etc, read. I find that the standard of its comment on the arms race and the peace movement in general indicates a level of intelligent thinking usually associated with the gutter press or, indeed, chimpanzees in the Zoo.

Whatever one's views on defence, to slander in such a manner and so constantly women who have shown such persistent courage in fighting the possibility of our nuclear obliteration does, in its turn, invite some very gloomy contemplation of the sort of society we are creating for ourselves.

How many times does *The Times* have to be told that women make up half, yes *half*, the population of this country? They deserve better treatment than that.

Yours faithfully,
SARAH HASKINS,
81 Kelvin Road, N5.

Planning for leisure

From Mr G. F. C. Rogers

Sir, I write to support Sir Ian Hunter's proposal (October 24) for a Council for Amateur Activities and I have a suggestion for such a council's agenda. Citizens with intellectual interests are well provided with public libraries and those with sporting interests with public sports centres, swimming baths and playing fields. Theatres and arts centres are available for those with artistic leanings. There is no provision for those whose pleasure lies in handicraft, so why not public handicraft centres?

All city councils possess buildings lying idle: disused warehouses and schools, for example. They could be furnished with woodworking machinery and small metal-working machine tools so that, for a small fee, amateur craftsmen can have the use of equipment that is too large for the ordinary home workshop.

For safety reasons it would be necessary for users to have a certificate of competence. Local colleges of technology could provide suitable tests and issue the necessary certificates. The prospect of being able to use such a facility might encourage some young people to attend craft courses and thereby swell the intake of the colleges. Such courses would be a useful adjunct to youth training schemes for unemployed school leavers.

It would be necessary to have two or three skilled craftsmen in attendance to advise users and maintain the machines. A user fee could cover this part of the cost. If part of the centre was let to suppliers of materials they could be expected to pay for the privilege and so provide additional revenue.

Finally, the capital cost could be kept low by (a) asking a school of architecture to produce draft schemes for the modification of the disused building and (b) appealing to local firms for machine tools they no longer need.

Yours faithfully,
G. F. C. ROGERS,
16 Hill View,
Henleaze,
Bristol.
October 25.

Quietus for the Guy

From Mr Laurence Cotterell

Sir, The Reverend F. H. Mountney (November 9) need not be too concerned about the feelings of Roman Catholics, numbers of whom have long burned images of Guy Fawkes on November 5 in the old spirit of placing a hero on the funeral pyre, possibly believing that the man had gone to Parliament with better intentions than many who enter there.

Yours faithfully,
LAURENCE COTTERELL,
121 St Paul's Wood Hill,
St Paul's Cray,
Kent.
November 9.

Farm tenancies

From Mr Oscar Colburn

Sir, Your distinguished correspondents, Mr H. Fell and others (October 25), draw attention to impending legislation which is designed to stabilise or increase in size the tenanted sector of British agriculture. Few people who have studied the subject believe that in its present form the proposed Bill, which is based on an outdated agreement between the CLA (Country Landowners Association) and the NFU (National Farmers' Union), has any chance of achieving its objectives. It seems likely to occupy parliamentary time to little advantage.

There is general agreement that the landlord/tenant system has made an enormous contribution to the success of British agriculture. It has made possible an efficient separation of capital inputs between owners and occupiers of land. It has created opportunities for farmers who can finance production but who lack the resources or the requirement for a different type of investment in land ownership. It has made possible the kind of settled family farming, which in the interests of a healthy rural infrastructure, most western nations try to achieve.

The landlord/tenant system allows rents to rise or fall in relation to cycles of prosperity and depression in a relatively painless fashion and usually without serious interruption to production levels. It retains flexibility for policy making in a way that a continued drift towards owner occupation would make impossible. It is essential that the benefits of the system should be sustained and reinforced.

Farm tenants are substantial businessmen. Many of them have £500 per acre, or more, invested in their enterprise. It is of importance to the national economy that investment by tenants should continue at a high level. For this reason, short-term lessees of various kinds are a poor alternative to secure tenants.

The most compelling motive for success in a high risk, long cycle industry like agriculture is the involvement by resident farmers who have a hope of bequeathing the results of investment and land improvement to competent successors.

For a variety of reasons successive Governments have created disincentives to the economically useful function of letting farm land, while simultaneously encouraging the diversion of scarce capital resources into large accumulations of owner occupied land, in a way which cannot be justified by any rational economic criteria. The whole process has been illogical.

The agricultural industry in this country now faces increasing competition. A suitable structure of ownership and occupation, which is designed to help contain fixed costs is essential for the next few decades, if we are to retain our share of European production.

Hopefully the new rent arbitration formula proposed by the Bill may have the effect of restraining the level of rent increases. If this happens the value of tenanted land will continue to fall. It is essential that it should be accompanied by measures designed to reduce vacant possession premia, however; otherwise no landowner will let. A reduction in fiscal reliefs for private persons occupying large amounts of land may be sufficient to achieve this, but statutory limits to occupation by financial institutions may be required.

Yours faithfully,
OSCAR COLBURN,
Crickley Barrow,
Northleach,
Near Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
November 3.

Church remarriage of divorcees

From the Reverend Nick Earle

Sir, Of course the Reverend Giles Hunt (November 9) is right: the rewriting of the marriage service is now an urgent priority for the Church of England. And it is not only the vows which must go; so must the imperative: "Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder".

We have got ourselves into our present muddle, I suggest, for two main reasons. First, we have allowed, if not encouraged, those of all persuasions or none to take vows without any prior assessment either of their understanding of the words they use or of their capacity for giving effect to them.

Secondly, we have rejected all consideration of the possibilities inherent in a declaration of nullity, presumably for fear of conflict with the courts. Yet there must be thousands upon thousands of cases in which there has been no true joining together of the parties, despite their vows, if only because either or both have not really foresaken the parental home.

Sooner or later a limit must be set to the endeavour to be all things to all men, compassionate though that policy may appear to be. For the sake of those who are inhibited from embarking on a parochial ministry by what appears to them to be an invitation to hypocrisy I believe it should be sooner.

Yours faithfully,
NICK EARLE,
Headmaster's House,
Bromsgrove School,
Worcestershire.
November 9.

From the Reverend R. G. Dinnis

Sir, In all the talk about the practicality of option G, to say nothing of the Very Rev Richard Eyre's "authentic resurrections from previous death", nothing seems to have been said on behalf of those who, being familiar with the plain meaning of words, have accepted that a vow made to another in the presence of God and of witnesses, "till death us do part" means what it says.

I have in my ministry met some such who, having been deserted by a spouse, or having found themselves in a situation of irretrievable breakdown of marriage, have regarded their subsequent state as an occasion to take up the Cross, which is all that Jesus offers us in this world.

I have no desire to limit the mercy of God and still less the freedom of the parochial clergy. However, in the pastoral care of those whose marriages have failed and who wish to take an action which the *prima facie* nature of their previous vows precludes, some consideration should be given to the witness of those who, often at great personal cost, live as though they believe the words of the marriage service and, *a fortiori*, the New Testament to be an expression of God's will.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD G. DINNIS,
The Rectory,
93 Pixmore Way,
Letchworth,
Hertfordshire.
November 5.

Life of housing

From Mr Lucas Mellinger

Sir, Lord Raglan (November 8) is right in claiming modern houses have a shorter life span than many structures erected centuries ago. But today our lifestyle is changing so rapidly that the layout rather than the fabric will determine the survival of a building.

Nothing would be gained by designing for eternity when (as some suggest of the NatWest tower) the usefulness of the building has been superseded before it is completed.

Yours faithfully,
LUCAS MELLINGER,
4 Kew Green,
Richmond,
Surrey.
November 8.

Late conversion

From Mrs M. Lomas

Sir, I hope it is no reflexion on the standard of our aircraft industry that only now has Mr Burrell come forward with the technique of centigrade/Fahrenheit conversion (*The Times*, November 8), which was devised more than 20 years ago by Mr Michael Webster.

Mr Webster was an Oxford man, a Milton scholar with an unusual gift for mathematical conundrums and gold ormolu restoration. He invented the system to enable his expatriate colleagues in the University of Helsinki to establish quickly just how much they were suffering from the extremes of that climate and even the most innumerate of us learned to use it effectively while waiting at tram stops in sub-zero (centigrade) temperatures.

It is outrageous to suggest that this method should be called Burrell's Law. Its proper title clearly is Webster's Law.

Yours faithfully,
MARY LOMAS,
Senior Common Room,
Goldsmiths' College,
New Cross, SE14.
November 8.

Mortal danger

From Professor H. H. Huxley

Sir, "The American marine base... came under sustained fire last night from 60 millimetre mortals" (*The Times*, page 1, November 8). An economical breakthrough in genetic engineering?

Yours sincerely,
H. H. HUXLEY,
12 Derwent Close,
Cambridge.
November 8.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 10: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this evening attended a Reception and Dinner, in aid of the Children's Charities of the Variety Club of Great Britain and the Army Benevolent Fund, at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich, SE10.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr Keith Mitchell (Chairman of the Central Council of Physical Recreation) at the Memorial Service for Sir Denis Follows which was held at the Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields today.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning planted a Cross in the Royal British Legion Field of Remembrance at St Margaret's Church Westminster.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Major John Griffin were in attendance.

Her Majesty was present this afternoon at a Reception given to mark the Golden Jubilee of the National Advisory Centre on Careers for Women at the University of London Institute of Education.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 10: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting of The Prince's Council at the Duchy of Cornwall Office, 10 Buckingham Gate, SW1.

The Hon Edward Adeane and Mr John Higgs were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 10: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in Chief Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Corps at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 10: The Duke of Gloucester presented Structural Steel Design Awards at a Luncheon at Savoy Hotel, London. In the evening His Royal Highness was present at a Concert to mark the 21st Anniversary of the Independence of Jamaica, at Kensington Town Hall, London.

Lt-Col Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at a Concert given in aid of The Beethoven Fund for Deaf Children at the Royal Festival Hall, London.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 10: The Duke of Kent, as Chairman of the National Electronics Council, this evening presided at the Council's Mountbatten Lecture at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, which was given by Dr Ian Ross, at the IEE in Savoy Place.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Bruce White will be held at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, on Thursday, December 1, at noon.

A memorial service for Mr David Gray will be held today at 10.45 at St Bride's, Fleet Street.

Birthdays today

Lord Carr of Hadley, 67; Rear-Admiral Sir Nigel Cecil, 58; Sir Frederick Dainton, 69; Sir Arthur Davies, 70; Mr Ron Greenwood, 62; Air Marshal Donald Hall, 53; Mr Roy Jenkins, MP, 63; Sir Harold Kent, QC, 80; Mr Rodney Marsh, 36; Rear-Admiral Sir Anthony Miers, VC, 77; Professor G.A.G. Mitchell, 77; Sir Walter Oakeshott, 80; Sir Peter Shepheard, 70; Sir John Toothill, 75; General Sir Walter Walker, 71; Sir Leonard Wolfson, 56.

Meeting

Common Wealth Award of Distinguished Service

At a ceremony yesterday at the Royal College of Pysicians Dr Cesar Milstein, of the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, was presented with the Common Wealth Award of Distinguished Service in Science. The President of the Royal College of Physicians, Dr Raymond Hoffenberg, made the presentation on behalf of the trustee, the Bank of Delaware.

Among those present were Dr C. I. Jackson, Executive Director of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society (United States), Sir Douglas Black and Sir James Gowans, Secretary of the Medical Research Council.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr T. R. Hornsby to be head of the Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings Directorate.

Correction

Mr David Moorcroft received the insignia of the MBE, Dame Mary Donaldson that of the GBE and Mrs Margaret Rule the CBE on November 8 and not the insignia mentioned in a photographic caption on November 9.

Luncheons

Constrado

The Duke of Gloucester was the principal guest and presented the 1983 Structural Steel Design Awards for the Thames Barrier Rising Sector Gates and the Chester-le-Street Civic Centre at a luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Mr Gordon Sambrook, Chairman of the General Steels Group of the British Steel Corporation, presided accompanied by Mr Guy Barrett, President of the British Constuctional Steelwork Association. Those attending included:

The Presidents of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Institutions of Civil and Structural Engineers: Mr Brian Scruby, Mr Martin Briggs, Mr Peter Ahrends, Mr Kanagaretnam Sriskandan and Mr Geoffrey Woodward, members of the judging panel: Sir William Atkins, Mr J V Bartlett, Mr P Dunican, Sir Geoffrey Ford, Sir Brian Hayes, Dr O A Kerensky, Mr P L Martin, and Sir Alan Muir Wood.

Foreign Press Association

Mr Robert Darroch, Vice-President of the Foreign Press Association in London, and Mr David Adamson, President of the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain, were the joint chairmen at a luncheon held yesterday at 11 Carlton House Terrace. Mr Shridath Ramphal was the guest of honour.

Dinners

Windsor Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders' Association

The Rev Roger Royle was guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Windsor Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders Association held last night at Windsor. Mr L Holland-Bradshaw, president of the association, was in the chair. Other guests were: Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, Sir Edmond Grove, Mr Victor Watson, Mr Russell Wood, Mr Roland Wiseman, Mr Gordon Franklin, Commander Hugh Faulkner and the Rev David Griffiths.

Association of Women Solicitors (1919 Club)

Lord Scarman and the President of the Law Society, Mr Christopher Hewetson, were the guests of honour and speakers at a dinner given by the Association of Women Solicitors (1919 Club) at Butchers' Hall yesterday to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the association. Mrs Marilyn Stanley, chairman, presided.

Fruiterers' Company

The Master and Wardens' dinner of the Fruiterers' Company was held yesterday at Innholders' Hall. The Master, Mr L. E. Fulford, presided and the other speakers were Alderman and Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, Mr R. W. Whittaker, Mr R. E. Starns, Renter Warden, and Mr J. C. Airey, Clerk.

The guests also included the Masters of the Company of Master Mariners and the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames and Dr I. Campbell.

Service luncheon

Royal Artillery Council of Scotland

Brigadier S. P. Robertson presided at the Autumn luncheon of the Royal Artillery Council of Scotland held yesterday, at Army Headquarters Scotland, Craigiehall, Edinburgh. The guests were Major General M. J. Tomlinson, Brigadier R. W. Riddle, Colonel D A N C Miers and Major D J Cameron, others present included:

Major General R Lyon, Major General R M Somerville, Colonel Sir Patrick Thomas, Colonel A S Weatherhead, and Colonel Lord Kinross.

Service dinners

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars

The annual dinner of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars was held last night at the Hyde Park Hotel. Major-General J. M. Strawson, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

The King's Royal Hussars

The annual officers' dinner of the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars was held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Brigadier J. R. D. Sharp, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

7th Middlesex

The annual dinner of the 7th Middlesex Officers' Club was held last night at the Drill Hall, Hornsey. Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. Gunnell presided and the principal guests were Major-General B. P. Hughes, the Rev G. B. Seabrook and Major R. W. J. Smith.

2nd Punjab Regiment

The annual dinner of the 2nd Punjab Regiment Officers' Association was held at the Army and Navy Club last night. Brigadier C. J. Tobin, president, was among those present.

London University Air Squadron

London University Air Squadron held their annual dinner last night at their squadron headquarters. The Commanding Officer, Wing Commander K. W. Jarvis, presided and the guests of honour were Air Chief Marshal Sir David Craig, Air Officer Commanding in Chief, RAF Strike Command, and Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of London University.

Reception

New Zealand News UK

A reception was held last night at the English-Speaking Union, Dartmouth House, given by New Zealand News UK in honour of Mr Ken Richardson of New Zealand High Commission who is retuning to New Zealnd shortly. Colonel J. I. M. Smail, proprietor of the paper, and Mrs J. I. M. Smail were the hosts. Among those present were:

The High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs W. L. Young, the Marquess and Marchioness of Lothian, Viscountess Hewart, Sir Harold and Lady Smedley, Sir Neville and Lady Leigh, Sir Hector Monro, MP, the Hon Diana Makgill, Mr and Mrs S. Martin, Miss D. Monreal, Miss D Monreal, Miss K O'Neil, Mrs M. Waldron and Colonel and Mrs A. J. M. McDonald.

Society of Merchant Venturers

The following have been elected officers of the Society of Merchant Venturers:

Mr Christopher Wilson Thomas, Master; Mr D. C. Tudway Quilter, Senior Warden; Sir John Wills, Junior Warden; Mr J. D. P. Stirling, First Assistant.



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visiting the Royal British Legion's field of remembrance at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday, where she planted a cross. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. J. Davies and Miss S. L. Steeden

The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mrs A. Davies, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Mr K. Davies, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Stephanie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor A. N. Steeden, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr M. E. Ebert and Miss V. Lavigne

The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs C. E. Ebert of Naperville, Chicago, United States, and Veronique, second daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Lavigne, of la Clairière, Jullouville, France.

Mr I. S. Haselhurst and Miss C. M. E. Harper

The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Haselhurst, of White Lodge Mews, Cuddington, Cheshire, and Catherine, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs P Harper, of Cressington Park, Liverpool.

Mr P. J. Howes and Miss J. E. MacLehose

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of the late Rear-Admiral P. N. Howes and of Mrs Howes, of Sutton Parva House, Heytesbury, Wiltshire, and Julia, younger daughter of the Rev A. and Mrs MacLehose, of High Walls, Newton Tony, Wiltshire.

Mr S. J. M. Jones and Miss R. A. M. McCarthy

The engagement is announced between Stephen John Martin, only son of Mr and Mrs Jack Jones of Mossley Hill, Liverpool, and Ruth Anna Mary, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs Kevin McCarthy, of Childwall, Liverpool.

Mr T. J. H. Manners and Miss V. F. Blyth

The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs James Manners, of Field Farm, Faringdon, and Verity, eldest daughter of Mr John Blyth, of Northumberland, and Mrs Lindsay Blyth, of London.

Mr R. J. A. Robinson and Miss C. A. Lyall Grant

The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Dr and Mrs R. A. Robinson, of Danby, Yorkshire, and Charlotte, daughter of Major-General and Mrs I. H. Lyall Grant, of Kingswear, Devon.

Mr A. Smith and Miss J. Denny

The engagement is announced between Aidan, son of Mr and Mrs B. Smith, of Twickenham, Middlesex, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. M. Denny, of Ealing, London.

Mr A. S. Wilson and Miss A. S. M. Clauson

The engagement is announced between Alexander, twin son of Mrs M. L. Wilson, of Lincoln, and of the late Mr A. M. S. Wilson, and Antonia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs O. D. H. Clauson, of Loughton, Essex.

Mr N. J. K. Wood and Miss A. Cranham

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the Rev R. Wood, MA, and Mrs Wood, and Anne, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Cranham (retd), and Mrs Cranham, both of Appledore, Kent.

Mr T. O. von Zaleger-Zabrodsky and Miss R. A. Hutchison

The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of Mr and Mrs Oleg B. Zabrodsky, of Brussels, and Rowena, daughter of the late Mr Rowan B. Hutchison and of Mrs Alison M. Allen, and stepdaughter of Mr Derrick T. Allen, of Rendham, Suffolk.

Marriage

Mr C. H. Dye and Miss S. A. Townsend

The marriage took place on November 10, at the British Embassy in Abu Dhabi, UAE, between Mr Christopher Dye, son of Mrs D. H. Dye and the late Mr K. H. Dye, of Charlton-cum-Hardy, and Miss Sarah Townsend, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. E. Townsend, of Amersham.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net. before taxpaid): **Baron Ashbourne**, Vice Admiral of Liphook, Hants., £52,669

Brady, Col. Noel Edmund Viner Viner, Twickenham, London £523,814

Shelton, Mr George of Nottingham, £515,009

Science report

Quest for a gravitational spasm

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

One of the things predicted from Einstein's equation of relativity is the existence of gravity waves. They have not been observed.

Nevertheless, Einstein proposed that in addition to the steady pull of gravity between all objects in the universe, it is also possible for immense gravitational disturbances, such as the collapse of a dying star, to allow objects to emit a burst of radiation in the form of a gravity wave. The gravity wave spreads through space with the speed of light.

But do these gravitational spasms really exist? It was only 30 years ago that scientists in America and Britain first tried to build instruments which might detect them. The equipment was similar, though several thousand times more sensitive, to the seismograph for measuring the shock waves from earthquakes.

The best known experiment by Dr Joseph Weber, of the University of Maryland, in the United States, was done in 1969 when that scientist announced he had detected a gravity wave.

No other laboratory has been able to duplicate the results and scientists are not certain just what Dr Weber found.

However, physicists are sure these waves exist. One reason lies in the findings of an experiment which lasted five years by a Princeton University student studying a binary star system, or one in which two stars are orbiting each other. In the Princeton observation, one of the pair was a pulsar transmitting powerful radio signals.

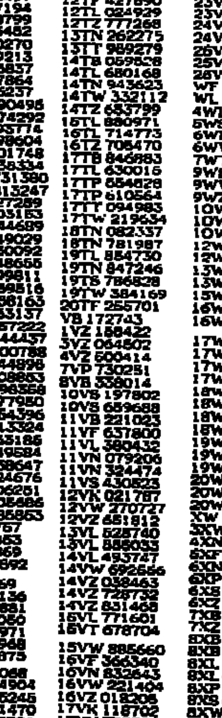
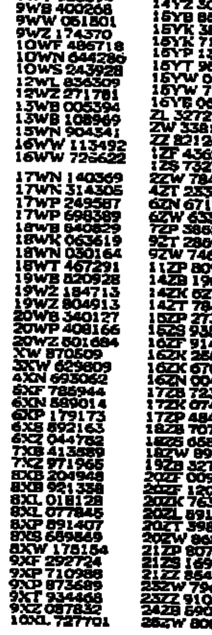
That team, led by Dr Joseph Taylor, found that the orbits of the two stars were changing in just the way Einstein said they would. They were spiralling in towards each other because of the emission of gravitational radiation.

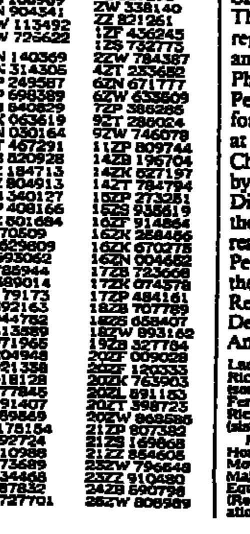
But that observation was only indirect evidence for gravity waves. It is against that background that Professor William Fairbank and Professor Peter Michelson have built a new detector which will be switched on later this month to await the first gravity waves. Their device is similar to Weber's but it is set at a temperature below minus 270°C and consists of a bar of aluminium suspended in a vacuum, cooled with liquid helium and protected from outside disturbances.

A computer monitors the bar at all times and the system filters out extraneous disturbances. The scientists are looking for a deflection of the bar which will be smaller than the diameter of an atom, which will tell them that a gravity wave has passed by.

£1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners





OBITUARY

M ANDRÉ CHAMSON
Novelist and historian

M André Chamson, the French novelist, essayist, geographer and art historian, died in Paris on November 9, he was 83.

Brought up in the Cevennes Chamson wrote his best novels about peasant life in that wild area but his concerns were not solely those of regional a novelist. He had been politically active on the left from the 1930s and his stand against Fascism also found voice in some of his works.

André Chamson was born in Nîmes in 1900 into a family of Cévenol Protestants. He was brought up in Alès, an old town in an area lately awakened from its mediaeval torpor by the development of coal and iron.

His father perpetually entertained dreams of wealth from these industries, but his business projects were always failing, with the result that André Chamson often found himself sent away to live with grandparents in the remoter hill country, to ease the burden on the family. From this he gained his first hand knowledge of the essence of the Cévenol peasant and that fierce, austere Protestantism which had for so long cut the area off from the mainstream of French provincial life.

After schooling in Alès and Montpellier he went to Paris, where he read history at the Sorbonne and after further study at the Ecole des Chartes presented a thesis on the historical geography of his native region.

He was in 1924 employed at the Bibliothèque Nationale and from 1930 was an assistant curator at the Palace of Versailles.

His first novel *Roux le Bandit* appeared in 1925, and it dealt with a Cévenol peasant, who refuses to be coerced into the army by the authorities. *Roux le Bandit* celebrated the hardihood of the Cévenol stock as did its successor, the popular success *Les hommes de la Route* (1927) which described the problems encountered by 19th century peasants forced to leave the countryside to live in the city.

In tandem with his novel writing Chamson was also attracted by politics and by the philosophy of history. *L'Homme contre l'Histoire* had already appeared in 1927, and he followed it with *La révolution de Dix-Neuf* and *Rien qu'un Témoignage* which he wrote on his return from a visit to Madrid during the Spanish Civil War.

During the 1930s he increasingly used journalism to express his opposition to Fascism in France and among the novels of this period *L'Année des vaincus* is characteristic in its perception of the blighting force of Nazism on nascent mutual understanding and comradeship between French and German peasants and workers.

Though perhaps not the man of action *par excellence* to the same degree as his friend, Malraux, Chamson served in the French army until the defeat of France and then played a vigorous role in the Resistance. With Malraux he formed the Brigade Alsace-Lorraine in 1944 and served with it to the end of the war.

After the war he served as curator of France's National Museums in Paris until 1959.

Chamson's regional upbringing continued to inform his postwar writings and he remained prolific. Among his many books *Le chiffre de nos jours* (1954) is worth a mention for its vivid recreation in fictional form, of a childhood so often transplanted from the lycée to the microscosm of a mountain village, while *La Superbe* (1967) was a historical novel dealing with the *camisards*, Chamson's Protestant forebears who, having been the victim of so much persecution in the seventeenth century took up their pitchforks and muskets in revolt in the 18th.

In this as in others of his works carrying a historical or political charge, Chamson the archivist tended to function at the expense of Chamson the artist and the result, though sincere, lacked a good deal as a novel *per se*.

Chamson was elected a member of the Académie Française in 1956 and had also been international president of PEN.

PROFESSOR K. O. DIKE

Professor K. O. Dike, who died recently in Nigeria at the age of 65, was one of the most distinguished historians and academic administrat or s in that country, and indeed in Africa. He was also well known internationally, having been chairman of the Association of Commonwealth Universitities, from 1965 to 1966, and one of the founders of the International Congress of Africanists

Kenneth Onwuka Dike was born on December 17, 1917, the son of a merchant in the Ibo town of Awka, in eastern Nigeria. Like other able and ambitious young Nigerians of the time, he went to Achimota College in the then Gold Coast, and then on to Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone and its validating university of Durham for his BA. He took an MA at Aberdeen, and went to King's College, London, to do research.

By today's standards, the thesis for which he gained his PhD, which was published in 1956 as *Trade and Politics in the Niger Delta, 1830-1885*, might well be thought of as a work of imperial history. At the time, however, with its emphasis on change in the Delta trading towns and its use of local oral as well as metropolitan archival sources, it was widely seen as a first fruit of the indigenous African history so much needed in colonies that were rapidly moving towards independence.

By this time Dike had returned to Nigeria, not only for his fieldwork but also as one of the first African appointments at Nigeria's pioneer university college at Ibadan in western Nigeria. But he found the history then taught there too Eurocentric, and in 1952 he moved sideways to the West African Institute of Social and Economic Research. There he devoted himself to planning and instituting the National Archives of Nigeria, of which he became the first director.

In 1954 he returned to the History Department at Ibadan and two years later he was chosen to be its first professor. He became Vice-Principal, and in 1960, the first African Principal of Ibadan. In this role he secured the translation of the University College into a full University, with himself as Vice-Chancellor, and encouraged the development of postgraduate work and of African Studies.

Outside the university, Dike was active in many spheres. In Nigeria he was the founder and the president of its Historical Society, and chairman of the Federal Antiquities Commission. In 1965 he became chairman of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and he also held senior office in the International African Institute.

In 1960, when he was attending a Moscow session of the International Congress of Orientalists (which in those days had a small African section), in concert with Professors M. J. Herskovits of the USA, Ivan Potekhin of the USSR and Daryll Forde of the UK, he was central in conceiving a new International Congress of Africanists, which was to meet for the first time in Ghana in 1963.

Meanwhile the University of Ibadan was being increasingly troubled by the ethnic rivalries that were to lead to the Nigerian civil war. In 1966, a year before the outbreak of that war, Dike, the Ibo vice-chancellor of a national university set in Yorubaland, found his position untenable; like most other Ibo in other parts of the Federation of Nigeria, he saw no alternative but to withdraw to his homeland in eastern Nigeria, which in 1967 was declared to be the independent state of Biafra.

In Biafra Dike busied himself planning for the setting up of a new university at Port Harcourt. When, after the end of the war and of Biafra's secession, these plans were frustrated, Dike responded to an invitation to go to Harvard as its first Professor of African History. He moved to Harvard in 1971, but his thoughts were never far away from his homeland, and before his death he had returned to occupy the post of President of the recently established Anambra State University.

Dike is survived by his widow, Ona, and by three daughters and two sons.

Rear Admiral Ronald Ettridge Portlock, CB, OBE, DL, who died on November 6 at the age of 75, had served during the Second World War in the aircraft carrier Ark Royal and the battleship King George V and was subsequently Director of Underwater Weapons Admiralty, 1957-58, and Chief of Staff to C-in-C Far East Station 1959-61. He was ADC to the Queen in 1958.

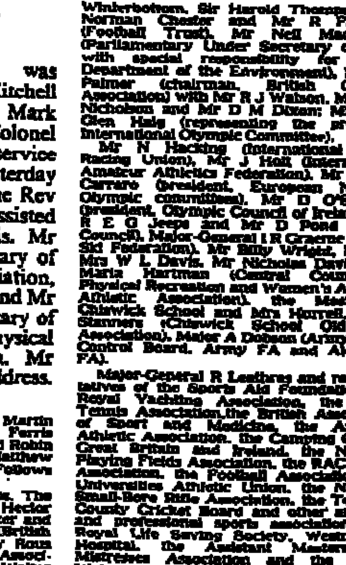
Memorial service

Sir Denis Follows

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr Keith Mitchell and Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, by Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs, at a memorial service for Sir Denis Follows held yesterday at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The Rev Charles Hedley officiated, assisted by the Rev David T. Jarvis. Mr Dick Palmer, General Secretary of the British Olympic Association, read from *Pilgrim's Progress* and Mr Peter Lawson, General Secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, read the lesson. Mr Denis Howell, MP, gave an address. Among others present were:

Lady Follows (widow), Mr and Mrs Martin Richter and Mr and Mrs Graham Ferris (sons-in-law and daughters), Ben and Robin Ferris and David, Andrew and Matthew Richter (grandsons), Mrs Phyllis Follows (sister-in-law).

Members of the Diplomatic Corps, The Hon Colin Moynihan, MP, Sir Hector Monro, MP, General Sir Cecil Blacker and Major-General J R Reynolds (British Equestrian Federation), Sir Stanley Rous (Representing International Football Association, FIFA, UEFA and WEFA), Sir Walter



Winterbottom, Sir Harold Thompson, Sir Norman Chester and Mr R Faulkner (Football Trust), Mr Neil Macfarlane (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State with special responsibility for Sport, Department of the Environment), Mr C S Palmer (chairman, British Olympic Association) with Mr R J Watson, Mr G H J Nicholson and Mr D M Dixon; Mrs M A Glen Haig (representing the president, International Olympic Committee).

Mr N Hacking (International Yacht Racing Union), Mr J Holt (International Amateur Athletics Federation), Mr Franco Carraro (president, European National Olympic committees), Mr D O'Sullivan (president, Olympic Council of Ireland), Mr R E G Jeeps and Mr D Pond (Sports Council), Major-General I R Graeme (British Ski Federation), Mr Billy Wright, Mr and Mrs W L Davis, Mr Nicholas Davis, Miss Maria Hartman (Central Council of Physical Recreation and Women's Amateur Athletic Association), the Master of Chiswick School and Mrs Hurrell, Mr D Stanners (Chiswick School Old Boys Association), Major A Dobson (Army Sports Control Board, Army FA and Aldershot FA).

Major-General R Leathes and representatives of the Sports Aid Foundation, the Royal Yachting Association, the Lawn Tennis Association, the British Association of Sport and Medicine, the Amateur Athletic Association, the Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland, the National Playing Fields Association, the RAC Sports Association, the Football Association, the Universities Athletic Union, the National Small-Bore Rifle Association, the Test and County Cricket Board and other amateur and professional sports associations, the Royal Life Saving Society, Westminster Hospital, the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association and the Inland Waterways Association.



THE ARTS

Cinema

Bold display of British vitality and variety

London Film Festival
National Film Theatre (from November 17)

Monkey Grip (18)
Cinecenta, Panton Street

Bloody Kids (15)
ICA Cinema



Sinister and innocent: Richard Thomas as the boy in search of attention in *Bloody Kids*

The **London Film Festival** is upon us again, in its twenty-seventh edition. This year the bag is as mixed as ever, and very much larger. With 160 titles, mostly made in a 12-month period, common sense and the law of averages would indicate that many are better avoided; but the advance information in the festival brochure rarely gives the game away. Practically all the films are described in such superlatives ("stunning", "devastating", "tough, unswerving and imbued with a recognizable truth", "stunning minimalist images") that a hint of qualification ("if the *soigné* visual style seems sometimes overdetermined") is positively damning. In this context the description of a film as "a fascinating experiment which audiences will judge differently depending on expectations and taste" is an ominous caveat. It is hard, too, to know what to make of "Marguerite Duras without the *longueurs*".

Apart from learning the art of reading between the lines, intending patrons can only follow their instincts and such pointers as we critics can give them (though the festival brochure is at pains to warn the reader against believing "naive" and "surprised" British critics). If the matter of selection is difficult, though, Londoners should not be too put off by the legendary difficulty of getting seats for the event. As usual this only applies to a handful of the more obviously popular titles. At midweek only two dozen of the shows were sold out, and a number of these were films like Henry Jaglon's eccentric comedy *Can She Bake a Cherry Pie?* the Hitchcock revivals *Rear Window* and *Vertigo*, John Landis's *Trading Places*, Tony Palmer's *Wagner* and Jean-Luc Godard's *Prénom . . . Carmen*, all of which (just because their audience potential is apparent) will open in London soon.

The sell-outs tend to be on the strength of names (Gianni Amico's *Io con te non ci sto piu*, not in itself very successful, has probably sold its tickets because Bertolucci's name is attached to it as producer) and particularly lurid brochure publicity. It was predictable that a "wonderfully camp and extremely bizarre musical . . . a sexually exotic mix of transvestites, transsexuals, gays and other variants" (Rosa von Praunheim's *City of Lost Souls*) or "a celebration of the male form, of nudity, of gayness" (Eric de Kuyper's *Casta Diva*) could not fail to find their public.

It is gratifying, though, that new British films like Richard Eyre's comedy *Loose Connections*, from a screenplay by Maggie Brooks, and Gavin Millar's *The Weather in the Streets*, adapted from Rosamund Lehmann, have also attracted sell-out audiences. This year's festival does above all demonstrate the vitality, variety and general high morale of British film-making since the new relationship with television consolidated by Channel 4. Like *The Weather in the Streets*, Giles Foster's *The Aerodrome* and Desmond Davis's *The Country Girls* are both literary adaptations (respectively from Rex Warner and Edna O'Brien, who also wrote the screenplay); but a notable feature of the new British feature films is reliance on original screenplays: Nick Darke's for Giles Foster's *Farmers Arms*, Ian McEwan's for Derek Banham's *Last Day of Summer*, David Hare's for Stephen Frears's *Saigon – Year of the Cat*. Undoubtedly one of the most intriguing prospects of the festival however is John Schlesinger's *An Englishman Abroad*, with a script by Alan Bennett, based on Coral Browne's recollections of meeting Guy Burgess during an exchange theatrical tour in Moscow. Miss Browne plays herself; Alan Bennett is Burgess.

Mike Leigh's *Meantime*, developed through his usual improvisational techniques, is his blackest comedy so far. It is the portrait of an awful East End family – father and both sons unemployed and mother the slave of bingo and the washing machine – whose council flat is a rat-trap where they have nothing to do but nag and gnaw one another.

The festival also provides evidence of the rise of a genuine Irish cinema; and Donald Taylor Black's *At the Picture Palace – Liam O'Leary* is an endearing portrait of a notable man who has battled for half a century for a national tradition in films.

European cinema has not been strong this year either in East or West. A quick short-list of festival programmes still available would include Raul Ruiz's ancient mariner's tale, *Les Trois Couronnes du matelot;* Claude Goretta's exposé of the calm propriety of a Swiss village, *The Death of Mario Ricci;* Pál Sándor's equivocal panorama of Hungary, 1956, *Daniel Takes a Train;* and (if your taste runs that way) Alexander Kluge's philosophical essay *The Power of the Emotions*.

I will be commenting later on other aspects of the festival, including this year's revivals of silent films with new orchestral accompaniments, *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind*, presented as a special tribute to Lillian Gish, who will be present.

One quirk of the festival is to rule any film under 50 minutes a short, and relegate it to a footnote in the brochure. Hence a notable small treasure and the auspicious debut of a British director could easily be overlooked, since Ian Sellar's *Over Germany* runs only 47 minutes. Sellar started as an assistant to Bill Douglas, and there is a sympathy of style that suggests (taking into account Bill Forsyth too) that there may be a particular Scottish sensibility. Like Douglas and Forsyth, Sellar works in small, seemingly fragmented impressions, silences, looks, ordinary sounds, which are nevertheless connected with poetic compression.

The film is an autobiographical recollection of the film-maker's first trip to Germany as a child, forearmed only by war comics about the Nazis, to visit his Jewish grandmother. The old lady is kind but secretive; the stolid little boy is bewildered, uncomprehending, caught up in his own daydreams; the encounter is brief and hardly consequential. Yet afterwards we are left with a haunting sense of the tragic decade in Germany that ended before the child was born.

Of this week's new releases, Monkey Grip is a lively feature debut for the Australian director Ken Cameron. As adapted from her own novel by Helen Garner, it is a vivid slice of Melbourne life, the erotic and sentimental adventures of a young woman on the fringes of a small-time Bohemia of pop artists, amateur actors and newspaper people. Nora (Noni Hazlehurst) moves from bedmate to bedmate with a yearning at the back of her mind for romantic love and some kind of permanence. Her vulnerable affections fix instead on Javo (Colin Friels), a recidivist junkie, with all the schizophrenia of that malady.

These people of mature years living like teenagers, in their messy pads and emotional impermanence, might simply be irritating, but Cameron and his actors redeem them with their own affection and a humour which deserts them only in the torrid love scenes with even more torrid piano accompaniment.

The ICA is giving a big-screen airing to Stephen Frears's **Bloody Kids**. Two or three years on, it tends to show how far television film-making has come: neatly written (by Stephen Poliakoff) and deftly, feelingly directed as it is, there is still the unmistakable made-for-television look. Largely this lies in the small scope and artifice of the story, with its metaphor of the corruption of our urban deserts. An 11-year-old boy, with both the skill and instinct for manipulation, stages an incident – he gets a friend to fake a football match stabbing – to gain from police and hospital the attention he lacks at home (the police never do manage to find his parents). Richard Thomas brings to the part of the boy a quality that is both sinister and innocent.

David Robinson

Television

Sad counterpoints

The portrait of Dylan Thomas in **I Sing to You Strangers**, on BBC2 last night, was meant to give us a picture of the poet – the thirtieth anniversary of whose death the programme marked – other than that of an inspired and irresponsible drunkard. The producer and writer, John Ormond, a fellow townsman of Thomas, obviously thought this view inaccurate and in his support brought forth René Cutforth, the composers Daniel Jones and Elisabeth Lutyens, the painter Alfred Janes, Thomas's wife Caitlin and daughter Aeronwy, and the writers Nicolette Devas (his sister-in-law) and Dan Davin.

Altogether, I did not think they made it. Caitlin, who appears in one of tonight's two programmes on Thomas, testified to their violent rows and rapturous reconciliations. Miss Lutyens confirmed these but said it was "bloody hell", adding that she did not mind conjugal rows but advised all to "keep away from conjugal reconciliations". Caitlin said that even now she felt disapproving of his weaknesses and that he was a "professional charm-boy and I despised that". He had wanted to die before he was 40, she said, and she could not blame him.

Mr Davin thought him doom-laden. Aeronwy recalled how he travelled separately from the family on trains and read Agatha Christie. Mr Jones said – though one can scarcely credit it – that there was still an unknown Dylan Thomas, and Mr Cutforth said that Thomas did not have much of a capacity for drink. Obviously, sadly, it did not stop him trying.

Arguing over Thomas, debating whether he earned his plot in Poets' Corner, is almost an industry. I do not think this programme added to our knowledge but it did emphasize the aridity of the debate, to which the rolling resonance of the poet reading his own verse added a sad counterpoint.

Dennis Hackett

Caroline Moorehead meets Nicholas Gage, who achieves a life's ambition in his new book, *Eleni*

A weapon for the emotions



On August 28, 1948, a group of Greek Communist guerrillas led 13 prisoners into the mountains just below the Albanian border. One of the five from the village of Lia was Eleni Gatzoyiannis, the "Amerikana", wife of a Greek settled in America, and mother of five children. She had been tortured. The prisoners were shot, and their bodies tossed into a ravine and covered with rocks. Eleni was 41.

The nine-year-old boy, her only son, waiting for her then from behind the safety of the nationalist lines, is now a middle-aged man, a short, self-contained figure with brown hair, a square face and a neat blue blazer, who lives in America. He writes under the name of Nicholas Gage and is the author of *Eleni* (Collins, £9.95), a 470-page account of his mother's trial and the circumstances that led to her death. Anthony Howard reviewed it on last week's Books page and it is compulsive reading.

It took him six years to write, but is in fact a life's work. "Everything I am and believe in is there", he explains. "It is the book I became a writer to write. When I was 13 I won first prize for an essay about Greece. I knew then I could write and that my future was solved. I had some kind of weapon to deal with my emotions. To write this book became my professional and personal life's goal."

The success of *Eleni* in America has been spectacular: Book of the Month Club choice, now in its fourth reprinting, and film rights sold for $850,000. (The day an extract appeared in the *New York Times* Gage received 70 film offers.) "I never believed it could have such a popular impact", he says. "I wanted to capture the world of a Greek village, with its mores, forces and rhythms which died in 1950, and to tell enough history to put the reader in the picture. But it's still about events that took place 35 years ago in a part of the world I thought no Westerner could identify with. To understand its success I tried to reduce the book to what it's essentially about: it's a love story between a parent and a child. Perhaps it touched people because we have all been children or parents."

The father the Gatzoyiannis children eventually joined in America was Christos, a 59-year-old fruit merchant separated from his family by war for over nine years. He had never seen his only son. "There wasn't much money", says Gage. "My sisters went to work. I won scholarships to college and then to Columbia graduate shool. America was a revelation to me. I loved the way you were judged on your work. It makes you feel free. People have asked me if I feel guilty about my mother. I feel responsible. I felt I had to do something with my life that was worthwhile because someone had paid for it with their own."

After Columbia, Gage joined the Associated Press, then the *Wall Street Journal*, before becoming an investigative reporter for the *New York Times*, making his name with articles on the Mafia and organized crime, developing the skills that he knew he would later use for his book. Once or twice he tried to start work on *Eleni*, but each time he retreated from the subject, unable to face what had happened to his mother. Instead, he wrote two novels, one a dynastic saga about Greek shipowners, the other about organized crime.

The opportunity to take on *Eleni* came in 1977 when the *New York Times* sent him to Athens. Even so, covering much of Eastern Europe left him too little time for the exhausting research he knew he needed to do before he could begin to write, and in 1980 he left the paper to embark on 400 extensive interviews, following his witnesses to the East European countries, where many had settled, or to the remotest corners of Greece. "Some of their stories ran to 70 pages. It was here my training as a reporter came in. I had learnt not to trust my own impressions or those of a single witness but to keep asking until the testimonies began to fit."

Dance

Tipping the balance

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

The Royal Ballet's new programme is oddly arranged, as if someone had set out to devise a mixture that nobody could like in its entirety. Yet I think that, shorn of one item and presented as a double bill, it might work rather well.

There are two works by Ashton, both using small casts and neither of them very long, but each with the distinctive mark of his imagination. *Monotones* is lyrical in mood, *Façade* comic; between them, they show the range of his genius. They need to be much better danced than at present, and with the dancers available there is no reason why they should not be, through some recasting and considerably more attention to detail in the rehearsal studio.

Those two, given with only a short pause, would make a satisfying second half to set against the dance drama of Nureyev's *The Tempest* which opens the programme. But Covent Garden custom decrees that there must be two full intervals to provide three quarters of an hour of drinking time, so, to avoid the impression that the intermissions exceed the following ballets in length, a little frippery party-piece has been added as makeweight, effectively wrecking the balance of the evening.

Some nights it is *Voices of Spring*, a bit of nonsense that Ashton cooked up originally to divert tired opera-men in *Fledermaus*. Out of context it looks cheap and cheerful, effusively performed by Merle Park and Wayne Eagling.

On Tuesday we had instead the Covent Garden première of *Chanson*, a duet made by Derek Deane for a gala last year. The sight of Alessandra Ferri winding herself sensuously all over David Wall, both of them in shiny flesh-tight garments, is not exactly high art but will certainly divert tired balletmen. Elizabeth Gale sings "Bailero" from Canteloube's *Chants d'Auvergne* while these goings-on are going on.

One disadvantage of that piece is that it prevents putting Ferri into *Monotones*, where her extraordinary pliancy when manipulated by partners might be ideal for the "Gymnopedies" section. Of the two women who performed that this week, Deirdre Eyden has better line and a better ear than Marguerite Porter, but is not flexible enough for some of the contortions.

There have been two different trios in the "Gnosseiennes" section, but only Ravenna Tucker really had the weight of it, with Karen Paisey looking capable of matching her if properly coached. The man's role needs a much more pure classicist than either Eagling or Ashley Page to do it justice.

Comment on *The Tempest* can wait until next week, and in *Façade* let me concentrate on welcoming the way Antoinette Sibley and Anthony Dowell dance the Tango. Merle Park and Michael Coleman, who also play those roles, underline every point as heavily as Queen Victoria did in her letters. Dowell makes a more plausible and funnier gigolo by being almost a gentleman, and Sibley looks dizzy and overwhelmed, as a real debutante might well be: forcing herself actually to enjoy her indignity. Delicious.

John Percival

Concert

Nash Ensemble
Bloomsbury Theatre

A double-decker sandwich is the substantial traveller's fare on this latest programme toured by the Arts Council. The outside is appealingly constituted of perky chamber peices by Prokofiev and Janáček, both written in 1924: the former's reed and string quintet, the latter's *Youth*.

Next inside come two highly imaginative new works by younger English composers, but then the centre is occupied by a large slab of stodgy material known as Constant Lambert's Piano Concerto. Never mind: the rest should secure delight at the repeat performances in Oxford, Coventry and points north during the next week.

Of the new pieces, Simon Bainbridge's *Voicing* is already in the capacious Nash Ensemble repertory, which may explain the quickness and cool of this performance under Lionel Friend. It must also be fun to play. The music sets out from quivering iterations that grow to provoke more and more of the 11 players before subsiding. A jerk of the machinery leads to a new phase of ostinato patterns, including a Tippett-like snatch for violins, flute and oboe: a second jerk unleashes a melody that snakes powerfully up and down and through the ensemble, then stops.

Colin Matthews's *The Great Journey* begins, oddly, in rather the same way, but soon goes off on tracks of its own, some of which remain conjectural. What we heard was the first half of a work that will eventually give the history of the Conquistadore Cabeza de Vaca's extraordinary journey across North America.

The glimpse was tantalizing, but it is already clear that Matthews has answered the two outstanding problems of musical narrative. The text is audible, and was decisively pronounced by David Wilson-Johnson. Second, the music, although freely colourful, has a strong logic that seems to be bending the story into a sonata and telling more tales than the solo baritone knows.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Blondel
Old Vic

It is good to put that heading up again, and even better to report that the old place is now in marvellous condition. In the past we have always had to apologize for London's most loved theatre. The acoustics may have been perfect, but it was incurably cramped, peeling and dowdy; the penny-pinching ghost of Lillian Baylis still haunted the place.

Thanks to its Toronto Medici, that is no longer the case. The theatre has emerged from its dusty old carapace as a superb compromise between Victorian restoration and modern open-plan design. You can drink your way up from the Pit Bar to the Lillian Baylis Circle (no food, as yet); colour schemes and lighting contrasts encourage you to move about sociably in a welcoming atmosphere; above all there is space – in the foyer, on the wide stairways and between the auditorium seats.

As Andrew Lloyd Webber failed to acquire the building, it is ironic that it should reopen with the equivalent of a Rice-Lloyd Webber mucical. With all respect to Stephen Oliver, who is Mr Rice's new composer, *Blondel* comes over as a sequel to *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:* another anachronistic comedy, featuring a footloose young hero of low degree wandering through foreign parts and giving a helping hand to the great.

Blondel, should you have mistaken him for the man who fried eggs halfway across Niagara Falls, was a twelfth-century English minstrel about whom little was known until Mr Rice came along. It now appears that he attempted a Eurovision hit in praise of Richard I, and set off in pursuit of the crusading monarch when things became too hot at home under the beastly John; and, failing to make it to the Middle East, had the satisfaction of rescuing Richard from imprisonment by the Duke of Austria (another nasty piece of work). For those services Richard appoints him royal composer and sets him up in his own night club along with his faithful group, the Blondettes.



Paul Nicholas: husky

It is not much of a plot, and Blondel is not much of a hero. To start with, you are left uncertain of whether the unsung minstrel is supposed to be any good or not: his girl, Fiona (Sharon Lee Hill), thinks he ought to get a steady job. Unlike Joseph, Blondel meets with no great triumphs or calamities. The one thing that can be claimed for the story is that it never mentions chastity belts.

Where Mr Rice does score is in the lyrics which, as in *Joseph*, couple a charming narrative flow with an amazing line in ingenious rhymes. John, for instance, has a number recommending himself as a subject for song, as "There is no rhyme for Richard/Which'd be suitable".

As for anachronisms, the appearance of French onion sellers and flamenco dancers to mark Blondel's place on the map take you back too insistently to *Joseph*, but they still exert great charm in Peter James's production.

This is a singing show, with far greater general vocal competence than musicals normally command. Stephen Oliver is not exactly the dominant partner; but his score takes off from the Lloyd Webber manner and elaborates it into full-scale operatic diversity. Beginning with an unaccompanied quartet of close-harmony monks, it proceeds with divided duets, solos and full chorus, and characterization through music – especially for Richard, who brings out Mr Oliver's most majestic vein.

He can also write superb romantic tunes, such as the final duet for Paul Nicholas's husky Blondel and the reunited Fiona. Tim Goodchild's stage is alive with lightweight mobile properties that flood the Dark Ages with sunlight. And, among the smaller parts, look out for David Burt as the villainously virile John and Chris Langham as the spindly assassin.

In response to my notice of *The Grass Widow*, Snoo Wilson justly takes me to task for listing astrology among the play's themes. My apologies.

Irving Wardle

MARKET REPORT ● by Derek Pain

Sober birthday for USM

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct 31. Dealings end, Nov 11. Contango Day, Nov 14. Settlement Day, Nov 21.

The Unlisted Securities Market, the Stock Exchange's lusty, occassional controversial infant share market, celebrated its third anniversay yesterday – but it was not quite a champagne affair.

Federated Housing, the latest in the flood of new issues, suffered the indignity of opening below its 54p placing price and the USM market as a whole gave an indifferent performance.

Datastream, the City computerized information service, has calculated a USM Index since the hesitant launch with 12 companies. The index (base: 100) has been as high as 103.85 points. Its "low" was reached in September, 1981, when it touched 54 points.

Last night it closed at 96.34, up just 0.22 points.

The USM now has more than 200 companies with a total capitalization of £2,100m. Newcomers are arriving with monotonous regularity.

On Wednesday, it was disclosed that Hambros the merchant bankers was bringing **Mebon**, makers of industrial coatings and paints to the market. And yesterday Tyne Tees Television said it was seeking a USM presence for its "A" shares (currently priced at 100p on the 163 market).

But dominatihg the market at the moment is the excitement of the debut of the **Aspinall Holdings** casino concern. In one of the most frantic scrambles for new shares witnessed in the City, investers put up more than £500m for the shares on offer.

Capel-Cure Myers, the stockbroker, is recommending Abingworth, the venture capital fund headed by Mr Anthony Montagu, which has been weighed down by the decline in the Apple Computer share price. The company holds 500,000 Apple shares. Fleated at 300p in May, Abingworth has been up to 326p, but is now 292p.

When dealings start on monday a premium of at least 25p – possibly, much more – over the 115p sales price is expected.

Aspinall, which has denied market speculation of some form of deal involving its bigger rivals, Pleasurama and Trident, will have the distinction of five stockjobbers trading the shares.

Mr Brian Winterflood, joint managing director of Bisgood Bishop, the only jobbers to deal in all USM stocks, believes that the market will continue to grow – recruiting companies at the rate of about one a week. But he feels some new issues have been over-priced, with "not enough left for the market".

The junior market's third birthdday coincided with a drab showing by the full market. In light trading, equities drifted lower after opening higher on the Wall Street's rally.

But Gilts continued to reflect optimism on inflation, gaining up to £¼.

Life insurance shares were the brightest feature in equities. They were supported by further evidence that the MIRAS benefits are still flowing through. Moreover composites rallied after yesterday's weakness following the **General Accident** figures.

Among the l;eaders, **Boots** was the most active on speculation that its Ibruprofen painkiller had run into problems in the US.

A private placing by de Zoete and Bevan, the stockbroker, has raised £2.9m for Arlington Securities, the property developer, and given the company a £13.5m price tag. A share quote is now planned within the next three years. Arlington, which has a dozen institutional shareholders, made pretax profits of £888,000 last year.

The group had received clearance for over-the-counter sales in Britain earlier this year and seemed on course for American approval. Said – a spokesman: "As far as we are aware there are no problems . . . we remain confident we will receive approval."

Boots' comment arrested the decline. After falling 6p to 164p, the shares recovered to 167p.

Elsewhere, **A and C Black**, publishers of **Who's Who**, enjoyed the days most spectacular gain – up 58p to 321p on a tip-sheet comment.

Meggit Holdings, the machine tool group suspended at 38p, returns to the market today following the arrival of new management, a tender offer and a rights issue.

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, the new chairman of **P&O** (the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company), yesterday told his line managers that he was considering moving from Beaufort House, the group's rambling City headquarters.

He also told them he had, as of yesterday, commissioned an investigation of Beaufort House's overhead costs. The managers were also warned there would be "Further changes, both in management and organization." P&O's shares were unchanged at 247p.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 10	Market rates (close) November 10	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4840-1.4940	$1.4900-1.4910	0.04-0.09c disc	0.23-0.28c disc
Montreal	$1.8325-1.8425	$1.8390-1.8400	par-0.10c disc	0.10-0.20c disc
Amsterdam	4.42-4.45fl	4.43½-4.44½fl	1⅛-⅞c prem	3½-3c prem
Brussels	80.30-80.80f	80.55-80.65f	7 prem-3c disc	par-10c disc
Copenhagen	14.24-14.31k	14.28½-14.29½k	104-229ore disc	406-532ore disc
Dublin	1.2680-1.2770p	1.2730-1.2740p	26-37p disc	90-105p disc
Frankfurt	3.94½-3.97½m	3.96-3.97m	1½-¼pf prem	3¾-2⅞pf prem
Lisbon	188.00-189.30e	188.75-189.25e	150-370c disc	505-1065c disc
Madrid	228.50-229.50p	229.15-229.35p	190-275c disc	670-830c disc
Milan	2396-2404lr	2401-2403lr	14-16lr disc	46½-49½lr disc
Oslo	11.01-11.06k	11.04½-11.05½k	328-411ore disc	1044-1128ore disc
Paris	12.02-12.08f	12.05½-12.06½f	3-4c disc	11½-13c disc
Stockholm	11.68½-11.75k	11.73-11.74k	239-310ore disc	717-790ore disc
Tokyo	348-351y	349¼-350¼y	0.90-0.73y prem	2.43-2.23y prem
Vienna	27.77-27.97sch	27.88-27.93sch	9-5gro prem	23-17gro prem
Zurich	3.20-3.23f	3.20¾-3.21¾f	1⅜-1⅛c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 83.9 unchanged.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9 5/16 Low 8¾

Week Fixed: 9½-9

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8 31/32	2 months	8 15/16
3 months	8 27/32	3 months	8 27/32

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	9 1/32-9	1 month	9 9/32
2 months	8 31/32-8 15/16	2 months	9½-9¼
3 months	8 29/32-8⅞	3 months	9 7/32
6 months	8 27/32-8 13/16	6 months	9 15/32

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9⅝-9½	7 months	9½-9¼
2 months	9⅝-9½	8 months	9½-9¼
3 months	9⅝-9½	9 months	9¾-9½
4 months	9⅝-9½	10 months	9¾-9½
5 months	9⅝-9½	11 months	9¾-9½
6 months	9½-9¼	12 months	9¾-9½

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9 7/32-9 1/16	6 months	9¼-9 3/16
3 months	9⅛-9 1/16	12 months	9 13/32-9 11/16

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	9⅛-9 1/16	3 months	9 3/16
7 days	9-8⅞	6 months	9 5/16-9¼
1 month	9 1/16	1 year	9⅝

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 9 Close 9½

1 week	9¼-9⅛	6 months	9 7/16-9 5/16
1 month	9 7/32-9 5/32	9 months	9⅝-9½
3 months	9 5/16-9¼	12 months	9¾-9⅝

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 9 5/16 6 months 9¼

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6110-1.6260
Bahrein	0.5585-0.5630
Finland	8.4855-8.5055
Greece	140.35-142.35
Hongkong	11.5975-11.6475
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4315-0.4345
Malaysia	3.4885-3.4985
Mexico	235-260
New Zealand	2.2385-2.2585
Saudi Arabia	5.1570-5.1870
Singpore	3.1535-3.1835
South Africa	1.7290-1.7440

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.1698-1.1706
† Canada	1.2344-1.2347
Netherlands	2.9782-2.9792
Belgium	54.06-54.11
Denmark	9.5840-9.5870
West Germany	2.6590-2.6600
Portugal	126.25-127.25
Spain	153.80-153.90
Italy	1612.00-1613.00
Norway	7.4150-7.4180
France	8.0920-8.0970
Sweden	7.8760-7.8790
Japan	234.35-234.45
Austria	18.70-18.71
Switzerland	2.1535-2.1550

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8090-0.8093

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 9-10; seven days, 9¼-9⅛; one month, 9⅜-9¼; three months, 9¾-9⅝; six months, 9⅞-10.

Gold

Gold fixed: am. $382.00 (an ounce): pm. $381.80 close, $382.25-383 (£256.25-256.75).

Krugerrand* (per coin): $394-395.50 (£264.25-265.25).

Sovereigns* (new): $89.75-90.75 (£60.50-61.00).

* Excludes VAT

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

C — E

F — H

I — N

O — S

T — Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

A dogfight only British Airways can win

The Government really must do something soon to correct its unstructured and confused civil aviation policy if its plan for the orderly privatization of British Airways is to proceed smoothly.

There are already signs that street fighting might erupt between BA's hard-line, privatizing chairman, Lord King, and his equally determined counterpart at British Caledonian, Sir Adam Thomson. Sir Adam last week unveiled his magnanimous proposal to absorb a clutch of BA's international routes, and take over perhaps 10 of the state airlines' Boeing 747 jets. His aim, he said, was to make post-privatization competition more fair.

Lord King predictably lambasted Sir Adam for mounting a "smash and grab" raid on valuable assets and signalled total opposition, at this stage, to any carve up between the two airlines.

Mr Trevor Boud, BCal's group finance director, has followed up by telling the all-party Parliamentary aviation group of MPs that given the go-ahead to come up behind BA and snatch some of its routes and planes, it will raise part of the necessary cash by seeking a full quotation on the London Stock Exchange. As a piece of free enterprise swashbuckling, this is eye-catching.

A flotation, Mr Boud suggested, would raise about £70m and the rest of the money BCal would need "mostly from the major banks".

The Caledonian Group, of which BCal is the principal trading company, is 99 per cent British owned. Its 5,522 shareholders include big institutions, led by Investors in Industry, formerly FFI. Of its £25m authorized share capital, £19.8m has been issued. Caledonian's book value at October 31 last year was £55m.

Mr Boud was supported in his parliamentary lobbying by Mr Alistair Pugh, the BCal managing director. He told the MPs that hiving off BA to the private sector in its present form would release unfair competition against other privately-owned airlines.

For good measure, he gave a warning that any attempt by the Government to write off BA's huge debt burden (up to 80 per cent of the airline's £1,100m of debts would need to disappear to make privatization possible) would be even more unfair.

Sir Adam was confident last week that his plan would succeed. "Raising the £70m would not be a problem; we would probably have a rights issue. Stock market flotation would not be necessary initially".

But, apart from being unsure within the company about whether to go to the market, the BCal boarding party, as Lord King called them, looks like being repelled. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary seems disinterested. Mrs Thatcher will undoubtedly back her hero Lord King and his vigorous efforts to have BA appear as a profitable enterprise in time for its Stock Exchange take-off.

The trouble with Sir Adam's ploy is that if it succeeded it would replace a near-monopoly with a duopoly – and that would be just as unappetizing to other airlines like British Midland Airways.

Privatization of the consistently profitable British Airports Authority is probably three years away, and that is a pity. It would be a good starting point in settling the current row and provide the base for a new policy.

Sir Adam: lambasted for mounting a 'smash and grab' raid

Qualified success for Brazil

The latest attempt to put together a rescue package for debt-stricken Brazil now looks assured. On Wednesday the Brazilian congress passed a much modified wage law which was less radical than the International Monetary Fund wanted but all it is going to get.

The United States Congress has also cobbled together a compromise which should ensure passage of the $8.4 billion American contribution to the IMF through the House of Representatives.

Fortified by these bits of commercial banks are now stumping up towards the $6.5 billion of new money which would see Brazil through to the end of next year. Something over $3 billion has already reached Morgan Guaranty, which is coordinating the loan.

British registered banks are expected to contribute about $750m and the big four clearers have already committed about $400m of this. The response from other European banks and many regional banks in the US has been unenthusiastic. Their attitude is that as it is the big international banks who have run riot, they should find their own way out of the Brazilian debt jungle.

It is unlikely that more than four-fifths of the £6.5 billion commercial bank loan will have been committed by next week. However, the IMF will have to describe this as a success, realistically it cannot do otherwise.

Considering the problems American banks could face over non-performing loans and the internal economic problems in Brazil, the consequences of continuing to withhold finance would be far worse than bending the rules a little.

The IMF executive board should therefore approve the Brazilian package when it meets on November 18. Brazil would then be expected to repay the $1.05 billion owed to the Bank for International Settlements, outstanding bridging finance from commercial banks and make a start on reducing arrears now put at over $3.5 billion.

It is a beginning but the Brazilian problem promises to be around for a long time yet.

Shell gains £194m as dollar strengthens

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The upturn in the American economy and the subsequent strengthening of the dollar has again played a significant part in increasing the profits of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group.

Results for the third quarter of the present financial year show that profits rose to £645m compared with £451m in the corresponding period last year. So far this year profits are £1,774m compared with £1,245m a year ago.

Shell, which now has cash reserves of £5.3 billion, said yesterday that there was a strong consumer-led recovery in the US with fragmented recovery elsewhere.

The oil industry as a whole echoes Shell's statement. The rush of companies to buy shares in the BP North Sea Forties field and the expectation of stable, if not lower oil prices, shows that the oil industry now expects industrialized economies to enter a period of sustained, if slow recovery.

Shell said yesterday: "with the overall growth in the free world forecast at around 3 per cent in real terms for 1985, it is expected that oil demand will marginally increase – the first annual increase since 1979."

Shell's results, which the company says have been helped by sterling's weakness against the dollar, were higher for the second successive quarter than brokers' estimates. The share price in London yesterday rose by 4p to 570p.

Ultramar, which yesterday announced an increase in its third quarter profits and confirmed that it had paid £30m for 1 per cent of the Forties field, said that it was continuing to look for new oil investments in the UK and the North Sea.

Ultramar, which originally bid for 2 per cent of the field, yesterday reported profits for the first nine months of this year up from £73.5m to £74.8m.

However, the company says that its recent Canadian marketing acquisition will not contribute profits until the last quarter of the year when Canadian home-heating oil sales rise.

Ultramar's chairman, Mr Arnold Lorbeer, said yesterday: "We share Shell's view that there will be an upturn in the economy in the coming months. We are looking for new investment in the North Sea and in the US."

The purchase of a share in the Forties field will give Ultramar a tax incentive to start a new exploration programme, and the company says it could buy shares in other North Sea fields if they come on the market.

Miller to lead Lloyd's with Lawrence deputy



Miller: "I am the prime minister . . ." (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Peter North Miller, a Lloyd's broker for 30 years was yesterday elected to succeed Sir Peter Green, chairman of the London insurance market.

Sir Peter, who has been in charge since 1980, stands down next month.

In accordance with the traditions of the 300-year-old market the 28-man ruling council met behind closed doors to decide the election of the chairman and two deputies for next year.

After the brief meeting the council announced that Mr Miller, aged 53, had won and that Mr Frank Barber, a former underwriter, and Mr Murray Lawrence, a favourite in the race for the chairmanship, would be elected deputy chairmen.

Within Lloyd's it was felt that Mr Lawrence had been passed over for the top job because he was not on the council during the past year of traumatic change.

Mr Miller was a member of the Committee of Lloyd's from 1977 to 1980 and again from last year and led the team which helped introduce the Lloyd's Act of 1982, which replaced previous legislation dating from 1870.

Mr Miller is only the third broker to become chairman of Lloyd's. But yesterday he stressed that he is not the brokers' man for the chairmanship. "I am a Lloyd's man," he said."

From January 1 Mr Miller will resign all his positions of directorial or executive responsibility in Thos. R. Miller & Son (Insurance) the family group which he has chaired since 1971.

He said he would continue as a director of the Miller Underwriting Agency, which he believed necessary to keep in daily contact with the market.

Mr Miller said that he had three priorities after taking over the chairmanship: to complete the work of putting the Lloyd's Act 1982 into effect by a system of by-laws, regulations and codes; to face up to and resolve disciplinary problems and; to oversee the move to the new Lloyd's building due to be completed by the end of 1985.

Mr Miller said he was happy that the new self-regulatory mechanisms would prevent abuses within the market.

"We have the very difficult task of steering the right course between an excess of bureaucracy and sufficient regulation," he said.

Mr Miller stressed that he wanted the various investigations into alleged malpractice to be completed "as quickly as possible". Slow justice was not necessarily the best. The problems would be tackled with firmness, justice and resolve.

"Certain things have happened at Lloyd's which, if the allegations are true, are shameful things. That said, I view these matters in the context of our enormous commercial success, our contribution to invisible earnings and the 70,000 to 75,000 people we employ either directly or indirectly."

Mr Miller was keen to dispel the feeling that the appointment of Mr Ian Hay Davison as chief executive of Lloyd's had changed the chairman's job to that of a largely ambassadorial and ceremonial non-executive role.

"I am the prime minister and Mr Davison is head of the Civil Service," he said.

His family links with Lloyd's go back 100 years in an unbroken line to his great grandfather. Mr Miller, married with two sons and a daughter joined the family firm in 1953 after qualifying as a solicitor.

Pressure on the dollar

The dollar gave up ground against most leading currencies yesterday. Reports that US aircraft had been attacked over Lebanon helped the dollar off its low point. With fears over the Middle East generally subsiding, the dollar ended the day nearly 1¼ pfennigs lower against the Deutschemark at DM 2.6585.

Sterling closed up 55 points at $1.4905 against the dollar but its value against the basket of currencies was unchanged. Dealers said conditions were quiet ahead of today's Veterans Day holiday in the United States.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 720.6 down 1.2
FT Gilts: 82.55 up 0.29
FT All Share: 449.97 up 1.85
Bargains: 18,895
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 96.34 up 0.22
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 12.38 up 5
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,244.24 down 52.86
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 837.27 down 29.49
Amsterdam: 149.1 up 4.1
Sydney: AO Index 709 up 3
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1016.1 up 12.7
Brussels: General Index 126.88 up 0.44
Paris: CAC Index 142.1 up 1.3
Zurich: SKA General 294.8 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4905 up 55pts
Index 83.9 unchanged
DM 3.9650 down 0.0025
FrF 12.06 down 0.01
Yen 349.75 down 0.25
Dollar
Index 127.5 down 0.4
DM 2.6585
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4900
Dollar DM 2.6595
INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.571288
SDR£0.709622

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9¼-9
3 month interbank 9⅜-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9⅞-9¾
3 month DM 6⅛-5⅞
3 month Fr F13⅝-13¼
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¼
Treasury long bond 101⅝-101¼
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period September 7 to October 5, 1983 inclusive: 9.393 per cent.

Tecalemit offer raised after weak response

By Andrew Cornelius

Siebe Gorman, the safety products group, yesterday increased from £15m to £18m its takeover offer for Tecalemit, the garage equipment manufacturer.

Siebe's final offer of three of its new ordinary shares or 990p cash for every 20 of Tecalemit's values each Tecalemit share at 53.4p if the share offer is accepted or 49.5p in the cash deal.

Yesterday, Siebe Gorman said that the latest offer will lapse if it does not become unconditional by December 2.

The takeover has won acceptances from 8.63 per cent of Tecalemit's shareholders, a level of acceptances described as "derisory" by Tecalemit. Siebe Gorman said yesterday that this was why its terms have been improved by 20 per cent if the share offer is accepted.

Tecalemit, meanwhile, is waiting for Siebe Gorman to produce a profits forecast for the year, even though the Siebe Gorman board has announced its intention to recomend an increased dividend of 9.45p net for the year to March 31, an increase of 11.2 per cent on last year.

Tecalemit has also reiterated that it sees no industrial logic in merging the two companies.

Early lift for Dow Jones

New York (Reuter). – Share prices remained higher in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday with both blue chip and secondary issues performing well.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which gained more than 17 points on Wednesday rose by nearly 5 points to about 1237. Overall, advancing issues outnumbered falling ones by about two to one. Volume was about 30 million shares.

Diamond Shamrock, an active issue, was down by 1½ to 22⅝. **Standard Oil of Ohio** fell 1½ to 48.

A T and T, a big gainer on Wednesday on heavy volume, was up another ⅛ to 64⅛ on volume of 1.3 million shares.

Surplus up at Stock Exchange

By Wayne Lintott

The Stock Exchange has nearly doubled its surplus before tax to £6m in the half-year to September 28. Sir Nicholas Goodison reveals in his informal interim report, to be delivered to members next Tuesday.

Total income from subscriptions, general service charges, rents and interest rose to £23.7m from £18.9m the year before.

The Exchange has also sharply increased the much-discussed compensation fund, from £1,684,000 to £2.1m. No claims were paid during the interim period and there are no substantial claims outstanding. In the year ago period £186,000 was paid out.

The number of new members increased to 305, up from 170 last time, raising total membership to 4,315. The number of member firms, meanwhile dropped from 232 to 228.

The interim statement also confirms that the Stock Exchange Council's decision on dismantling commissions can be expected shortly.

Sir Nicholas said that the agreement with the Government in July brings to an end "the biggest single trial, and surely the most unnecessary, which the market (established in 1802) has faced in its long history."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Unilever papers stolen

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and soap company, was forced yesterday to announce its third quarter figures and interim dividend five days early, after price-sensitive documents went missing during the burglary of a manager's home in Britain earlier this week.

The company, which did not indentify the manager said there was no evidence of a market leak. It did not believe that the burglars were specifically after the confidential documents.

Group profits of LWT (Holdings), parent company of London Weekend Television, slumped by two-thirds in the 12 months to last July, largely due to the launch and running costs Channel 4. Trading profits dropped from £14m to £5.8m, but pre-tax profits of £5.3m were better than the stock market expected.

● **The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry** has announced he will not refer the proposed sale of some Dunlop Holdings European tyre plants to Japan's Sumitomo Rubber Industries for investigation by the Monopolies Commission.

● **Britain's economy** will grow by only 1.4 per cent a year between 1985 and 1988 after 2.7 per cent this year and 2 per cent next, the Henley Centre for Forecasting says in its latest *Economic Review*. The number of jobless will rise to 3.3 million by 1987, when inflation will average 9 per cent, it says.

● **Britain's public and private sector steel output** was more than 30 per cent higher last month than a year earlier, averaging 301,200 tonnes a week – well below the 337,600 tonnes a week average of October, 1981.

● **Mr James McMillan** was formerly joint general manager of the Bank of Scotland, not the Royal Bank of Scotland, as stated on November 8.

Interim profits jump at B & C Shipping

By Jonathan Clare

British & Commonwealth	
Half-year to 30.6.83	
Pretax profit £36.1m (£16.4m)	
Stated earnings 50.4p (24.9p)	
Turnover £175.5m (£169.7m)	
Net interim dividend 8p (7p)	
Share price 850p, up 12p	
Dividend payable 4.1.84	

Exceptional profits from the sale of helicopters from the Bristow Helicopter Group's fleet helped British & Commonwealth Shipping more than double its half-year profits to £36.1m.

But the banking, shipping and air transport company, in which Lord Cayzer's Caledonia Investments has a 49 per cent stake, says full-year profits will be little different to last year's £36.8m after stripping out ship and aircraft sales.

Profits from the air transport division fell from £8.7m to £7.6m. Much of the fall is due to an exceptional currency loss incurred by aircraft loaned by Air UK. However, Air UK, which returned to the black last year, remains profitable at the trading level.

The helicopter sales follow the re-equipment of the Bristow fleet with Aerospatiale Super Puma aircraft and amounted to £16.3m.

Profits before the aircraft sales were up by £3.5m at £19.8m, largely from the Cayzer, Gartmore banking activities, aviation support and office equipment businesses. Investment income increased from £6.4m to £7.4m.

Associated company profits, largely from OCL, the container cargo shipping company, were down by £1.2m to £4.6m

New borrowing schemes will help to control interest

World Bank set to cut loan rate

By Michael Prest

The World Bank will probably cut the interest rate on its loans to developing counties on January 1, Mr Eugene Rotberg, the Bank's treasurer and vice-president, said yesterday.

He said that several new borrowing instruments prepared by the Bank should help to hold the rate down. The present interest change is 10.47 per cent.

New measures either about to be introduced or under active consideration include floating rate notes issues, a new instrument to be called the Central Bank Facility, more short term note issues, and using the financial futures markets to hedge the Bank's enormous and growing liquidity. More currency swops will also be used.

The World Bank is one of the biggest borrowers on financial markets and the scale of its operations is awesome. In its last fiscal year, to the end of June, it raised $10,300m (£6,931m) and this figure will be higher this year. No less than $3,400m of fixed and medium term debt has been acquired this year up to last week and a further $500m has been raised from discount notes in the United States.

Critics of the Bank have suggested that it has been forced to adopt more and more complex alternatives to the Euromarket as its borrowings have grown. At the beginning of this month the Bank raised £100m from a 20-year "bulldog" issue.

But Mr Rotberg said that the new measures exploit the Bank's comparative advantage as one of the world's most highly-rated credits. It had to achieve the mix of debt and currencies which would offer the lowest and least volatile interest rates to its borrowers.

The floating rate notes, which will be the first issued by the Bank, will initially be used sparingly. The Bank evisages raising only around $5m in the first few months, but the crucial feature will be tying the interest rate to the United States Treasury Bill rate rather than to Libor.

At the same time $750m will be raised from the Central Bank Facility.

All these operations have posed an increasing problem of how to safeguard the mounting liquidity. The Bank's cash resources rose by $4,000m last year to $13,200m. The volume of trading to protect these assets was worth $2.2 trillion. Before long, therefore, the Bank is likely to begin experimenting with financial futures markets

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

H C Slingsby
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pretax profit £61,000 (£47,000).
Stated earnings 6.1p (4.7).
Turnover £1.9m (£1.5m).
Net interim dividend 0.6p (same).

Applied Computer Techniques
Half-year to 30.9.83.
Pretax profit £1.8m (£791,000).
Stated earnings 9.34p (4.23p).
Turnover £20m (£8m).
Net interim dividend 0.5p (0.3p).

Staveley Industries
Half-year to 1.10.83.
Pretax profit £2m (£1.5m).
Turnover £78.4m (£71.2m).
Net interim dividend 4.5p (same).

Buckley's Brewery
Half-year to 1.10.83.
Pretax profit £365,000 (£470,000).
Stated earnings 1.84p (£2.38p).
Turnover £5.9m (£5.6m).
Net interim dividend 0.75p (same).

Electra Investment Trust
Half-year to 30.9.83.
Pretax profit £4m (£3.8m).
Stated earnings 1.8p (1.6p).
Turnover £6.2m (£5.7m).
Net interim dividend 1.6p (1.5p).

John Beales Associated
Half-year to 19.9.83.
Pretax profit £220,000 (£217,000).
Stated earnings 5.7p (5.6p).
Turnover £6.6m (£6.1m).
Net interim dividend 1.15p (1p).

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Unilever advances despite dull sales

Unilever
Nine months to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £610m (£591m)
Stated earnings 79.15p (81–03p)
Turnover £10,071m (£9,748m)
Net interim dividend 10.57p (9.96p)
Share price 845p (up 10p)
Yield 3.5%
Dividend payable 23.12.83

DATASTREAM — UNILEVER SHARE PRICE (850, 800, 750, 700; NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT)

Unilever's third quarter pretax profits of £219m, which left profits for the first nine months 3.2 per cent ahead of last year, owed more to cost cutting than to sales. While sales volume during the third quarter was 5 per cent higher at £3,391m, operating profit of £213m was up 7 per cent.

This is not to say that sales in some areas and of some products are not advancing healthily. Although pan-European sales of consumer items – everything from frozen peas to deodorants – up by 2.5 per cent, less than the group average, ice cream benefited considerably from the hot summer and tea sales continued to perform well.

On the industrial side of the European operations, animal feeds, chemicals, plastics, paper and packaging all did better. Against that, transport could only manage to break even, and the continuing relatively low level of industrial production holds out little hope of a rapid recovery.

Perhaps the most encouraging indicator of what the future could bring, however, is the United States. There, National Starch's resins and adhesives have received welcome support from the revival of Detroit.

But Unilever is still locked in its battle with Procter and Gamble and Colgate for a bigger slice of the sharply competitive detergent market. The heavy promotional and development spending involved should bring its reward in the long run, but in the here and now it detracts from Lever Brothers' performance.

At the same time, West Africa remains a headache, although a glimmer of improvement shows through. The share of associated Companies' profit- mainly the United Africa Company in Nigeria - held steady at £10m for the quarter, but still fell by £6m to £31m over the nine months.

Over the group as a whole, high liquidity and lower interest rates combined to reduce interest payments. For the quarter they fell from £13m to £5m, and for the nine months from £35m to £28m. But what Unilever needs is sales volume, now that costs have been trimmed and margins widened. Nevertheless, leaving currency movements aside, £800m is within reach for the whole year.

Great Portland Estates

Great Portland Estates
Half-year to 30.9.83
Net revenue £7.5m (£8.2m)
Stated earnings 2.9p (2.9p)
Gross rental income £8.5m (£8m)
Net interim dividend 1p (1p)
Share price 130p, down 4p
Dividend payable 26.1.84

The last set of full-year results from Great Portland Estates caused more than a little teeth-sucking among the City's property specialists when they showed a write-down in the value of the property portfolio.

The present set of interim figuers has done little to reassure the blue chip property group's followers. They show a reduction in pretax revenue and a maintained dividend. But the City's reaction to the bottom line is unfair: Great Portland is a conservative company and it has taken the cost of refurbishing its properties directly out of revenue, which has tax advantages, unlike other companies which take it out below the line.

The reduced tax change of £3.5m against £4.2m after the refurbishment costs of £820,000 against £155,000 gives a small increase in attributable profits at £4.1m.

More worrying is the dividend. While the City expected the present year to be flat, analysts had hoped for an increase in the interim dividend as a mark of better times just round the corner.

Great Portland received income during last year from its rights issue cash invested in gilts. These resources have now been ploughed into the development portfolio so the short-term return will be lower. The City has marked down expectations for the present year and now expects the company to produce full year profits a little down on last time's £15.8m. But results in 1985 and 1986 are expected to show the benefits of the present development programme.

Great Portland's undoubted strength lies in its conservatism. The valuation due at the end of the year in unlikely to show another write-down and, indeed, is likely to show a small surplus. The portfolio is largely confined to London offices – about 2.5m sq ft of space which has been either built or refurbished in the last 15 years.

The blance sheet remains sound with long-term borrowing of only £22m against shareholders' funds of £261m. Liquid resources of £28m compare with outstanding commitments of £32m.

Valor

Valor
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £1.4m (£772,000)
Stated earnings 6.08p (3.92p)
Turnover £34m (24.5m)
Net interim/dividend 1.074p (0.876p)
Share price 134p, down 1p Yield 3.7%

Valor, the gas appliances group, is on course to exceed its own forcast of profit-growth ahead of the 26 per cent recorded last time.

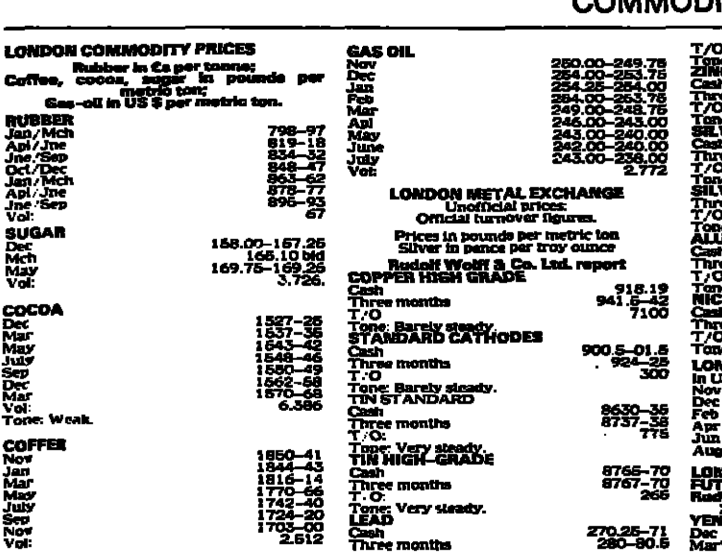
In the six months ot the end of September pretax returns are up by about 80 per cent, boosted by a product-led growth in volume sales of as much as 30 per cent.

Demand for the new Vogue gas cooker and Valor Homeflame has been so buoyant that the company has taken on an extra 300 staff in Liverpool and Birmingham.

The second half will have to bear much of the £1m cost of a television advertising campaign to further promote Homeflame and the £220,000 the group spent on an exploration well in the English Channel.

Even so profits for the full year should easily top £3.5m against £2.7m last time, and could do a lot better if the weather is kind – which in Valor's case means bad. The bonanza value in Valor's share price – the possibility of striking oil – has disappeared now that the first Channel well has proved uncommercial, and though the price is well supported by present trading, it should be born in mind that the gas appliance market is highly cyclical.

COMMODITIES



LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Jan/Mch	798–97
Apl/Jne	819–18
Jne/Sep	834–32
Oct/Dec	848–47
Jan/Mch	863–62
Apl/Jne	878–77
Jne/Sep	895–93
Vol:	67

SUGAR	
Dec	158.00–157.25
Mch	165.10 bid
May	169.75–169.25
Vol:	3.726.

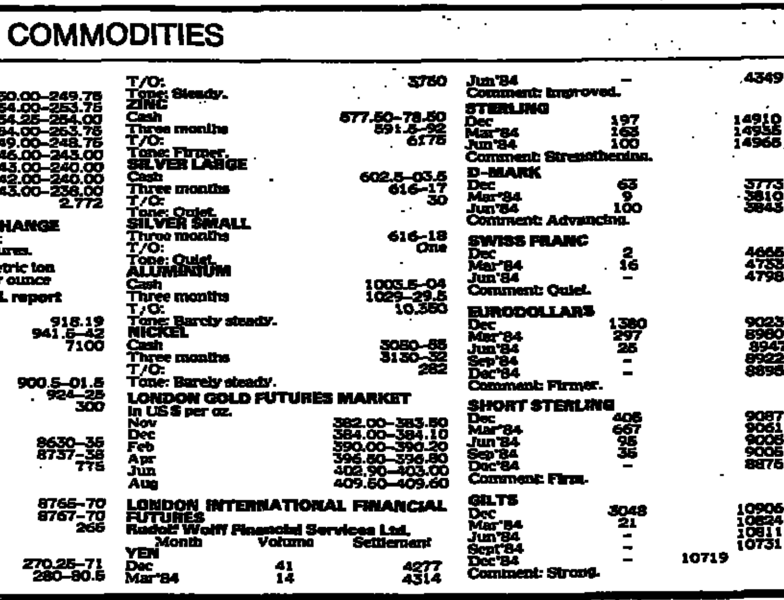
COCOA	
Dec	1527–26
Mar	1537–35
May	1543–42
July	1548–46
Sep	1550–49
Dec	1562–58
Mar	1570–68
Vol:	6.386
Tone: Weak.	

COFFEE	
Nov	1850–41
Jan	1844–43
Mar	1816–14
May	1770–66
July	1742–40
Sep	1724–20
Nov	1703–00
Vol:	2.612

GAS OIL	
Nov	250.00–249.75
Dec	254.00–253.75
Jan	254.25–254.00
Feb	254.00–253.75
Mar	249.00–248.75
Apl	246.00–243.00
May	243.00–240.00
June	242.00–240.00
July	243.00–238.00
Vol:	2.772

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton. Silver in pence per troy ounce.
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	918.19
Three months	941.5–42
T/O	7100
Tone: Barely steady.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	900.5–01.5
Three months	924–25
T/O	300
Tone: Barely steady.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8630–35
Three months	8737–38
T/O:	775
Tone: Very steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8765–70
Three months	8767–70
T/O:	265
Tone: Very steady.	
LEAD	
Cash	270.25–71
Three months	280–80.5



T/O:	3750
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	577.50–78.50
Three months	591.5–92
T/O:	6175
Tone: Firmer.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	602.5–03.5
Three months	616–17
T/O:	30
Tone: Quiet.	
SILVER SMALL	
Three months	616–18
T/O:	One
Tone: Quiet.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1003.5–04
Three months	1029–29.5
T/O:	10,350
Tone: Barely steady.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3050–55
Three months	3130–32
T/O:	282
Tone: Barely steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Nov	382.00–383.50
Dec	384.00–384.10
Feb	390.00–390.20
Apr	396.50–396.80
Jun	402.90–403.00
Aug	409.50–409.60

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Radolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Dec	41	4277
Mar'84	14	4314
Jun'84	—	4349
Comment: Improved.		
STERLING		
Dec	197	14910
Mar'84	163	14955
Jun'84	100	14965
Comment: Strengthening.		
D-MARK		
Dec	63	3773
Mar'84	9	3810
Jun'84	100	3843
Comment: Advancing.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec	2	4665
Mar'84	16	4733
Jun'84	—	4798
Comment: Quiet.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec	1380	9023
Mar'84	297	8980
Jun'84	25	8947
Sep'84	—	8922
Dec'84	—	8898
Comment: Firmer.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec	406	9087
Mar'84	667	9061
Jun'84	95	9008
Sep'84	35	9005
Dec'84	—	8875
Comment: Firm.		
GILTS		
Dec	3048	10906
Mar'84	21	10824
Jun'84	—	10811
Sept'84	—	10731
Dec'84	—	10719
Comment: Strong.		

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¾%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

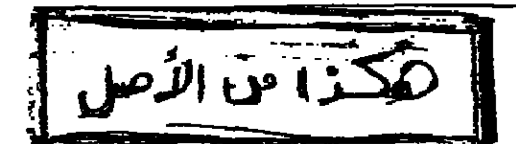
† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¼%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

[illegible]



Industrial notebook

Jobs indictment that shames our leaders

A startling but little publicized document has landed on the circular conference table on the 15th floor of the Millbank Tower, the London meeting place of the National Economic Development Council. It is a document that should shame the leaders of this land into some more real, less political and more properly productive action over jobs.

The paper, presented to Neddy by Mr David Young, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, proves to be an indictment of the way that Britain is training, or failing to train, people for a future that will increasingly demand new skills.

The fact is that despite the millions being poured into training schemes by private industry and the state, we are in danger of permanently becoming a nation of frustrated unemployed, controlled by a handful of elite and wealthy technocrats.

An absurd generalization? Mr Young's view is: "Our education and training arrangements are neither well prepared, nor well organized, nor well equipped."

He adds: "We have a system which is not producing enough of the skills we need in the form we need them – a system which is not customer-oriented nor as productive as it might be, and where the emphasis is still on yesterday's requirements rather than tomorrow's. In particular, there is not sufficient realization or exploitation of the dramatic potential of the new technologies for the educational and training processes themselves."

The latest bit of State tinkering with the jobs market, the Youth Training Scheme, has attracted an impressive 230,000 youngsters this year, and while this is well below the total expected by the originators, Mr Young said recently he was confident of finding every unemployed 16-year-old a job by Christmas.

Industry certainly has committed itself in a big way to the YTS – more than the Government expected – but there must be serious doubts as to whether the scheme really marks the beginning of a new dawn in preparing people for work, or whether it is a cynical and temporary means of reducing unemployment.

And to some extent a more important question is whether hard-pressed industry will be prepared to give the YTS recruits a permanent job when their time is up and the subsidy runs out. Mr Young expresses doubts. "We are not yet in a position where we can be sure that credit will be given in industry or elsewhere for competences acquired during the YTS year."

He stresses that Britain still needs an adequate foundation of work-related education and training, the means to provide and sustain the skills necessary to manage technological and industrial change, and the ability to prepare adults to cope with change.

This, he says, requires a major and sustained campaign to re-direct vocational education and training effort.

Mr Young's audience of ministers and industrial and trade union worthies is then told of the uphill struggle in gaining awareness of what, to him, appears to be the probability of increasing shortages of trained and re-trained adults in the years to come. He paints a picture of an economy hamstrung by its lack of good quality technicians and engineers.

"In training and re-training adults, Government's direct contribution through its own programme is at the margin. The centre ground belongs to employers. Until we can change employer attitudes to investment in human resources on a continuing basis, and until employers organize themselves better at local level to make their requirements not only known but satisfied, progress will not be satisfactory."

Mr Young cleverly appeals in his paper to the Government's and industry's present preoccupation with free market forces and the need for people's jobs and their abilities to be customer-related. Everything must change, he says, for the familiar configurations of the labour market have gone for ever.

"I should like to see all those with responsibility for public provision of training and related further education commit themselves wholeheartedly to the principle that the needs of the customer come first, with all that that implies."

At next month's council meeting, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, is expected to present his eagerly-awaited document on "Where the new jobs will come from", so Mr Young's warnings are timely. On the present evidence, when the new jobs are identified, there will be precious few trained people to do them.

Edward Townsend

APPOINTMENTS

Changes at Lilly Inds

Lilly Industries: Mr Richard A Bailey has been reappointed managing director. Mr Sidney Taurel becomes vice-president of Europe. Mr T S Clifford has been made director of pharmaceutical marketing for the United Kingdom. Mr A Clark becomes general manager of Eli Lilly Italia and Dr John Wold has become managing director for Lilly Research Centre.

Gorsuch Underwriting Agencies: Mr Gordon T Alston has been made director.

Arthur Lee Group of Companies: Mr James Henderson has become managing director of Lee Bright Bars. He will remain managing director of Lee Steel Strip.

Clark Kenneth Leventhal & Company: Mr Bengt Bangstad has been elected chairman.

NFU Mutual Insurance Group: Mr Alun Evans has been appointed a general director.

J E Lesser & Sons (Holdings): Mr J R V Beatty has become director.

Lynton Holdings: Mr Gordon Edington has become joint managing director.

Hamilton Life Assurance: Mr R H Headlee has been appointed chairman and the following become directors: Mr C W Caldwell, Mr P A de Chazal, Mr G J Downing, Mr G E Dunsdon, Mr D H Maitland, Mr I Martindale, G T Simpson and Mr B H Weston.

Bailey Morris, in Washington, explains an important shift in Reagan's overseas strategy

US ready to drop big stick to woo its trade critics

The Reagan Administration now intends to seek closer consultations with its largest trading partners on a wide range of economic and trade issues in an attempt to defuse increasingly hostile criticism from its closest allies.

This was the message of Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the US Secretary of Commerce, who indicated in an interview with *The Times* that the Administration will try to resolve disputes over the next year by walking softly rather than carrying a big stick.

Mr Baldrige said that President Reagan's trip to Asia this week during which he will seek a compromise solution to the yen-dollar imbalance, was a good indication of the new willingness to consult on problems rather than issue untimatums.

In what could be called the maturing of the Reagan Administration, Mr Baldrige said there was now a realization among cabinet officials that the harsh rhetoric which characterized some earlier negotiations, particularly in the East-West trade area, had been counterproductive.

'We've lowered the level of rhetoric. No one wants a trade war'

It will be in this spirit that the Administration approaches its important talks in Brussels on December 9 with officials of the European Community.

White House officials said they regarded the talks as an important step in solidifying US-European relations. This was the reason for the President's decision to send for the third time in three years a group of his closest advisers including Mr George Schultz, the Secretary of State; Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary; Mr William Brock, the US trade representative and Mr Baldrige.

"During the first year of this Administration, I think we could be accused rightfully of not talking enough with our European allies but we tried to change that," Mr Baldrige said.

Progress in lowering tension after the United states tried to include European companies in its own Soviet-pipeline sanctions and in achieving an agreement on reduction of carbon steel imports from Europe was cited by Mr Baldrige as good reason for more frequent consultations.

"We've lowered the level of rhetoric and we want to keep it that way. No one wants the alternative of a trade war," he said.

Mr Baldrige even suggested that the Administration would be willing to take a new look at proposals for a conference similar to that at Bretton Woods to reform the international monetary system. This subject could be central to the latest meeting of the group of 10 industrial nations in Paris next week.

Although the US Administration remained firm in its opposition to a policy of intervention to correct wild fluctuations in the dollar, Mr Baldrige said there was a strong desire for closer cooperation on financial matters including coordination of exchange rate policies.



Baldrige: bringing new spirit of rapprochement to talks in Brussels

Over the past year, European officials have made clear that economic recovery in Europe is tied to a strong recovery in the United States and a stable, less inflated, dollar.

Until recently, however, the Administration has insisted there was little it could do about the overvalued dollar which it said remained high because investors viewed the US as a "safe harbour" when there was turbulence elsewhere in the world.

The indication of a shift in policy should not be regarded "as a giant step but rather a small step", which is an important sign that the United States is more willing to listen to the rest of the industrialized world, Mr Baldrige said.

Even a small step towards more cooperation will be welcomed in European capitals where officials have often criticized the high-handed behaviour of some Reagan Administration officials who have attempted to dictate policy to their counterparts.

Often, it was the tone of the US talk as much as the substance which irritated Europeans. One senior European diplomat said: "We were not consulted on the final carbon steel decision until the eleventh hour and the Soviet gas pipeline sanctions were a *fait accompli*. During the trade negotiations in Geneva last November, the United States tried to apply particularly heavy pressure which backfired." Why the change in tone?

It has probably occurred as a result of both criticism from abroad and the growing internal power of administration moderates such as Mr Shultz and Mr Baldrige, both of whom serve on the important cabinet economic and trade councils.

Mr Baldrige has recently solidified his position as the Administration's top spokesman on industry and trade matters by winning a bureaucratic struggle with Mr Brock.

He, for one is now prepared to admit that some administration officials had not realized how closely linked the US economy was to the rest of the world.

But the linkage theory has gradually sunk in and US officials are now concerned that trade channels remain open and economic gains spread to the rest of the world.

This was the reason for their strong commitment to increased resources for the International Monetary Fund and to closer cooperation among governments.

Over the next year and a half when the momentum of recovery must be maintained, exports will be increasingly important to all nations, including the United States, which is also looking abroad for growth.

During the past year, for example, the combination of the over-valued dollar and the debt crisis have hit US exports so hard that the trade deficit is now projected at a record $70 billion this year.

Mexico cut imports from the United States by 50 per cent or $9 billion; Brazil by between 30 per cent and 40 per cent; and Romania cut imports from all sources by 50 per cent.

'The US tried to apply heavy pressure which backfired'

The United States calculated that it lost 25,000 jobs for every $1 billion of lost exports. Thus as a result of the Mexican cutback alone an estimated 200,000 workers were laid off, Mr Baldrige said.

These severe restraints cannot be allowed to continue if the world is to recover fully, he said, and he is determined to open communications at the highest levels to resolve the problems.

This may not be a giant step forward, but it is an important shift in policy nonetheless.

Central & Sheerwood slips into red and sells offshoot

By Jeremy Warner

Central & Sherwood has sold its heating appliances offshoot, Trianco-Redfyre to a management consortium for £4.2m.

The consideration represents well over a half the engineering, printing and publishing group's current stock market value.

The sale coincides with news that the group slipped back into the red in the first half of this year.

Pretax losses were £415,000 on sales of £40m against profits of £278,000 on sales of £55m last time.

The fall in sales and slide into losses is partly attributable to the sale of some subsidiaries, but more particularly there has been poor demand for the company's capital goods in world markets and for some products in the company's distribution division.

It would be imprudent to expect any significant improvement in trading during the second half of the year, the company said yesterday. Only five months ago, the chairman said he was confident of the measures taken and viewed prospects for 1983 with cautious optimism.

The loss for the first half was struck after group administration costs less income of £242,000 against £208,000 last time and a reduction in bank borrowing costs from £1.7m during the corresponding period last year to £1.3m.

Trading profits in engineering were halved to £1m.

Lord Eden will become the company's chairman at the beginning of next year and Mr David James will become managing director.

Central & Sherwood
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pretax loss £415,000 (profit £278,000).
Turnover £40m (£55m).
Net interim dividend none (same).
Share price 11.5p unchanged.

WALL STREET

	Nov 9	Nov 8
AMF Inc	17½	17¼
AMR	33¾	35
Allied Chem	56¼	55½
Allied Stores	50⅝	50¾
Allis Chalmers	16	16
Alcoa	43¾	42⅛
Amax Inc	24	22⅜
Amerada Hess	28¼	27¾
Am Brands	56⅞	55⅝
Am Broadcast	58½	56⅝
Am Can	45⅞	45½
Am Cyanamid	50⅝	50½
Am Elec Power	18½	18½
Am Home	51½	51⅜
Am Motors	7½	7½
Am Nat Res	40⅝	41½
Am Standard	34⅜	34⅜
Am Telephone	64	63¾
Armco Steel	17⅜	17½
Asarco	27½	28
Ashland Oil	29⅝	29
Atlantic Richfield	42⅝	42½
Avco	32¾	31¾
Avon Products	23⅜	22
Bankers Tst NY	40	38¾
Bank of America	19	18⅝
Bank of Boston	38	37⅞
Bank of NY	29¾	29⅛
Beatrice Foods	30⅝	31
Bethlehem Steel	23⅛	23½
Boeing	40⅝	40
Boise Cascade	39⅝	38
Borden	54⅝	54⅛
Borg Warner	45⅜	44⅝
Bristol Myers	44½	43½
BP	25⅝	25⅝
Burlington Ind	36⅛	36
Burlington Nthn	103	100⅝
Burroughs	47⅞	46⅝
Campbell Soup	36⅝	35⅝
Canadian Pacific	39⅜	39½
Caterpillar	43	42½
Celanese	78	77⅛
Central Soya	15⅝	14⅞
Chase Manhat	44½	45⅝
Chem Bank NY	41½	40⅝
Chrysler	28	27⅜
Citicorp	32⅞	33
Clark Equip	33¼	33⅝
Coca Cola	55⅜	53⅞
Colgate	23⅜	23⅜
CBS	68⅜	70⅞
Columbia Gas	32½	32⅝
Combustion Eng	32⅝	32½
Comwlth Edison	28	28⅜
Cons Edison	24⅛	24⅛
Cons Foods	40⅝	39⅝
Cons Power	17⅜	17⅞
Continental Grp	48⅝	50¼
Control Data	46⅞	45⅞
Corning Glass	71	69⅝
CPC Intnl	38⅛	38½
Crane	27½	26⅝
Crocker Int	28⅛	28
Crown Zeller	34½	33¾
Dart & Kraft	69⅝	68½
Deere	37⅞	37⅛
Delta Air	38¼	38⅜
Detroit Edison	15⅞	15½
Disney	58⅝	60⅝
Dow Chemical	34⅛	34½
Dresser Ind	20⅛	19⅞
Duke Power	27⅛	25⅛
Du Pont	51½	50⅝
Eastern Air	5⅞	5⅛
Eastman Kodak	69⅝	68⅝
Eaton Corp	49⅝	50
El Paso Nat Gas	23⅝	23⅜
Esmark	83	81⅜
Evans P. D.	12⅜	12⅜
Exxon Corp	38⅝	38
Fed Dept Stores	56⅝	55⅝
Firestone	21⅛	21
Fst Chicago	22⅝	23½
Fst Intrst Bncp	41⅝	41⅛

	Nov 9	Nov 8
Fst Penn Corp	6½	6⅛
Ford	65⅞	63½
GAF Corp	15¾	15⅝
GTE Corp	46⅝	46½
Gen Dynamics	55¾	55½
Gen Electric	54⅛	53¾
Gen Foods	50⅝	51
Gen Mills	53½	52
Gen Motors	76⅝	74⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	7½	7½
Gen Tire	35⅛	35⅝
Genesco	8⅝	8⅝
Georgia Pacific	24⅛	23⅝
Getty Oil	73	69⅛
Gillette	48½	47⅛
Goodrich	29⅝	28⅝
Goodyear	31	31⅛
Gould Inc	29⅛	28½
Grace	45⅝	44⅝
Gt Atltc & Pacific	11⅛	11⅛
Greyhound	22½	21⅞
Grumman Corp	27½	27⅝
Gulf Oil	44⅝	43⅞
Gulf & West	26⅝	26⅛
Heinz H. J.	34½	34
Hercules	38⅛	38⅝
Honeywell	128	128⅞
IC Inds	43⅞	43½
Ingersoll	48½	46⅝
Inland Steel	27½	27⅞
IBM	122⅝	122⅛
Int Harvester	13⅛	12⅞
INCO	13⅛	13⅛
Int Paper	49⅝	50
Int Tel Tel	42	42⅛
Irving Bank	50⅛	49⅝
Jewel Co	49⅞	50½
Jim Walter	34⅝	34⅛
Johnson & John	44	44⅝
Kaiser Alumin	15½	15⅝
Kerr McGee	30⅝	30⅝
Kimberly Clark	93⅜	93½
K Mart	37⅛	36⅞
Kroger	38	34⅞
L.T.V. Corp †	14⅞	14⅝
Litton	63⅝	62
Lockheed	39⅝	40⅝
Lucky Stores	20⅝	20⅛
Manuf Hanover	36	35¾
Manville Cp	11⅞	11⅞
Mapco	23⅝	23⅛
Marine Midland	23½	23⅛
Martin Marietta	35	35⅛
McDonnell	53⅜	51½
Mead	36⅝	36⅜
Merck	97⅛	96⅝
Minnesota Mng	85⅝	83⅜
Mobil Oil	29½	29⅛
Monsanto	105½	102½
Morgan J. P.	65½	64½
Motorola	134½	131⅛
NCR Corp	128½	124⅝
NL Industries	16⅛	16⅛
Nabisco	44⅛	44
Nat Distillers	25⅝	25½
Nat Med Ent	20⅝	20⅝
Norfolk South	66	65⅜
NW Bancorp	33	32⅝
Occidental Pet	24⅛	24⅜
Ogden	30	30
Olin Corp	28⅝	28⅝
Owens-Illinois	33⅜	33
Pacific Gas Elec	16⅛	16⅛
Pan Am	7⅛	7⅛
Penney J. C.	60⅛	58
Pennzoil	33⅝	33⅛
Pepsico	36½	36⅞
Pfizer	38⅝	39
Phelps Dodge	34	29⅜
Philip Morris	67½	66⅜
Phillips Petrol	33⅝	34⅛
Polaroid	36⅝	34⅝
PPG Ind	34	33⅝
Procter Gamble	56⅛	55⅜
Pub Ser El & Gas	25¼	25¼

	Nov 9	Nov 8
Raytheon	43⅞	43
RCA Corp	34⅛	33½
Republic Steel	25⅝	25⅛
Reynolds Ind	58⅝	58⅛
Reynolds Metal	36⅛	36⅛
Rockwell Int	30⅝	28⅝
Royal Dutch	44½	44
Safeways	27	26⅝
St Regis Paper	33⅝	33½
Santa Fe Ind	30⅛	30
SCM	33⅜	33½
Schlumberger	51½	49⅝
Scott Paper	28⅞	27⅞
Seagram	37⅛	36⅛
Sears Roebuck	40	38⅛
Shell Oil	41⅝	40⅛
Shell Trans	33½	33⅛
Signal Co	29⅛	28⅝
Singer	27	27
Smithkline Beck	66⅝	65½
Sony	14⅝	14⅛
Sth Cal Edison	40⅞	40½
Southern Pacific	37⅞	37⅝
Sperry Corp	43⅛	42⅛
Std Oil Californa	34⅛	34
Std Oil Indiana	47⅞	48⅛
Std Oil Ohio	49⅛	47⅞
Sterling Drug	29⅝	28⅛
Stevens J. P.	18⅞	18⅝
Sun Comp	44⅛	43⅝
Teledyne	163⅛	161
Tenneco	40⅛	40⅛
Texaco	35⅞	35⅝
Texas East Corp	38½	38⅛
Texas Inst	126⅝	125⅝
Texas Utilities	26⅝	26⅛
Textron	33	33
TWA	30⅛	30½
Travelers Corp	33	32⅝
TRW Inc	76⅞	75⅝
UAL Inc	34	33⅝
Union Carbide	64½	63⅛
Union Oil Calif	29½	29⅝
Un Pacific Corp	53½	52⅝
Uniroyal	15⅛	15⅛
United Brands	16⅛	16⅛
US Industries	15⅝	15½
US Steel	26⅝	26⅛
Utd Technol	66⅝	64½
Wachovia	45⅛	45⅛
Warner Commun	21⅛	21⅛
Warner Lambert	28⅞	28⅝
Wells Fargo	36⅝	35⅛
Westghse Elec	47⅞	47⅞
Weyerhauser	33⅝	32⅛
Whirlpool	45⅝	46
Woolworth	35⅝	34⅛
Xerox Corp	46½	46⅛
Zenith	29⅝	29⅛

Canadian Prices

	Nov 9	Nov 8
Abitibi	22	21½
Alcan Alumin	45½	44¼
Algoma Steel	27	25⅞
Bell Telephone	30⅞	30⅝
Cominco	56⅛	55⅛
Cons Bathurst	22½	22½
Gulf Oil	17⅛	17
Hawker/Sid Can	16½	16½
Hudson Bay Min	24	24
Imasco	30⅛	30½
Imperial Oil	36⅝	35½
Int Pipe	31⅜	30⅝
Mass.-Fergsn	6⅛	6⅛
Royal Trustco	27	27
Seagram	46	44½
Steel Co	26½	26⅛
Thomson N 'A'	35⅛	35⅛
Walker Hiram	28	27⅞
WCT	15	15

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Intervision profits show a sharp fall

By Philip Robinson

Intervision Video (Holdings), which delayed its figures a week ago, yesterday reported a sharp fall in retained profits.

The company said the delay occurred because its accountants, Stoy Hayward, failed to arrive at a provision for tax in time.

The tax charge is now shown at £204,000 against nothing last year. Intervision has also charged extraordinary debts of £217,000 below the line, leaving retained profits of £118,000 against £659,000 last time. In the stock market shares closed unchanged at 26p.

The group's special charges include £75,000 compensation to a former director, £31,000 as the costs of an abortive merger and £115,000 for its floation on the Unlisted Securities Market eight months ago, when the shares touched 60p.

At the trading level, Intervision earned £609,000 profit on a turnover of £5.8m. It is paying an unchanged total yearly dividend of 1p a share, a significant slice of which are owned by former chairman Mr John Bentley and Mr James Slater.

The group reports a dramatic improvement since May in its small business of putting video libraries into garages, tobacconists and off-licences.

Intervision says it is also looking at related areas for investment in the overall software communications business. Distribution of software for personal computers and related equipment is a natural adjunct for the company's business, it says.

Arenson losses continue

By Wayne Lintott

Arenson Group
Year to 31.7.83
Pretax loss £706,000 (loss £952,000)
Stated loss per share 7.52p (10.47p)
Turnover £15.7m (16.1m)
No dividend (same)
Share price 23p Yield nil

This is the third year running that furniture-makers Arenson has had tales-of-woe to accompany the annual figures showing hefty losses.

The company had hoped the troubles were over, but it again suffered heavy losses.

The American distribution subsidiary and a British manufacturing division making rigid, low-price furniture for domestic sales suffered badly. Both divisions have now been sold and had it not been for those unexpected developments the company claims that it would have shown a profit for the year.

The closures caused heavy run-down and redundancy costs. Arenson also shows substantial book losses on asset sales.

A statement said that progress has been made in reducing stocks and borrowings during the year and "further progress on both these fronts is anticipated during the current period."

Swiss interest in Airbus

Swissair may be interested in up to 20 of the 150-seat Airbus A320's, the vice-president, Mr Heinz Galli said in Zurich yesterday.

But he said the requirement would not arise until the 1990's, and would, therefore, not be in time for the case now being made by British Aerospace and other Airbus partners for government funding to get the new aircraft off the ground.

Law Report November 11 1983 House of Lords

Home Secretary's reference

Regina v Chard

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman

[Speeches delivered November 10]

The words of section 17(1)(a) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 – which empowers the Home Secretary to refer to the Court of Appeal the case of a person convicted on indictment – were free from ambiguity and that person was to be treated for all purposes as if he had a statutory general right of appeal on any ground he wished to rely on, whether of law or fact or mixed law and fact, without need to obtain the prior leave of the Court of Appeal.

The House of Lords unanimously so decided when answering "Yes" to the question "Where as a result of fresh evidence placed before him the secretary of state has referred 'the whole of the case' to the Court of Appeal Criminal Division under section 17(1)(a) ... is the appellant entitled to argue matters unconnected with the reasons for the reference in the secretary of state's letter referring the case?"

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Alan John Chard from the ruling of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Peter Pain and Mr Justice Stuart-Smith) that on the referance the court had to confine itself to grounds set out in the Home Secretary's letter as his reasons for making the reference and on the court's refusal to allow the appellant's counsel to argue that the conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory on grounds other than fresh evidence.

Section 17(1) provides: "Where a person has been convicted on indictment... the secretary of state may... (a) refer the whole case to the Court of Appeal and the case shall then be treated for all purposes as an appeal to the court by that person..."

Mr Patrick O'Connor (who did not appear below) for the appellant; Mr Brian Leary QC and Mr Timothy Cassel for the Crown.

LORD DIPLOCK, with whose speech all their Lordships agreed, said that the appellant was convicted after a nine-week trial before Mr Justice Nield and a jury at the Old Bailey on November 7, 1975 on three counts of conspiracies to commit robbery and was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment – reduced to 12 years on appeal in 1977. As armourer to a gang he was subject to a general conspiracy count; two other counts referred respectively to robberies at Chigwell in Essex and a bank at Park Royal, London.

The principal prosecution evidence was that of three other gang members: "Billy" Williams, probably the first criminal to earn the now familiar sobriquet of "supergrass", James Trusty and Peter Wilding. The only evidence against the appellant on each of the three counts of which he was convicted was that of accomplices, all three accomplices on the general count, Williams and Trusty on the Chigwell count and Williams and Wilding on the Park Royal count.

Their applications for leave to appeal against conviction in 1977 were refused.

Wilding was released on parole early in 1981 and gave an interview to a journalist on *The Guardian* newspaper in which he retracted evidence he gave at the trial.

In consequence the Home Secretary caused him to be interviewed by a police officer and then referred to the Court of Appeal "the whole of the case of Alan John Chard for determination in respect of his conviction on November 7, 1975 of three offences of conspiracy to rob". In the previous paragraph of his letter he had referred to the article in the newspaper and also to Wilding's statement in the police interview.

His Lordship's view, which he understood was shared by all their Lordships, was that the words of section 17(1)(a) in their natural and ordinary meaning were free from any trace of ambiguity; the person whose case which resulted in his conviction was the subject matter of the reference was to be treated for all purposes as if he were a person upon whom there was conferred by section 1 of the 1968 Act a general right of appeal to the Court of Appeal on any ground on which he wished to rely (whether it was of law or fact or mixed law and fact) without need to obtain the prior leave of that court.

The first two paragraphs of his notice of appeal relied on the fresh evidence of Peter Wilding but the second two paragraphs sought to impugn the verdicts on wider grounds that were not alluded to in the Home Secretary's reference letter.

Wilding gave oral evidence to the Court of Appeal at the hearing of the second appeal. He confirmed that the evidence which he had given at the trial in 1975 which inculpated the appellant was true.

The confirmation and his explanation that he had said what he did to the journalist and the police officer in order to escape harassment of himself and his family by members of the underworld (with whom "grasses" were understandably unpopular) were accepted by the Court of Appeal as being true. No complaint against that part of the judgment in the second appeal had been advanced in the House.

The complaint was against the ruling that on a reference under section 17(1)(a) the court, in its consideration of the appeal, had to confine itself to the grounds set out in the Home Secretary's letter as his reasons for making the reference. The court was not able to consider other grounds for allowing the appeal on which the convicted person might wish to rely.

In so ruling the Court of Appeal relied on *R v Caborn-Waterfield* ([1956] 2 QB 379), decided on a reference under section 19(a) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1907 before that section had been amended by section 19 of and Schedule 3 to the Administration of Justice Act 1960 so as to adopt the wording later reproduced in section 17(1)(a) of the consolidating 1968 Act.

Another authority relied on by the Court of Appeal was *R v Stones (No 2)* ((1968) 52 Cr App R 624) decided on a reference under section 19(a) but after the 1960 amendment. In *Stones (No 2)* the Court of Appeal treated the case as governed by *Caborn-Waterfield*.

Other reported cases subsequent to *Stones (No 2)* proceeded on the same basis and the Court of Appeal in the instant case was constrained by that authority to make the restrictive ruling that it did as to the matters open to be argued in the second appeal.

The point of law raised in the House was purely one of statutory construction. The language of section 17(1)(a) was capable of bearing one meaning only.

If the Home Secretary decided to act under paragraph (a) in the case of a particular person, it was the whole case and nothing less than the whole case of that person that the Home Secretary was empowered by the section to refer to the Court of Appeal. Upon receipt of such a reference it then became the duty of the Court of Appeal to treat the case so referred for all purposes as an appeal to the court by that person.

Since it was the "whole case" that was referred, that had to include all questions of fact and law involved in it. The requirement that it was to be treated as an appeal by the convicted person "for all purposes" had to include its being so treated for the purposes of the Criminal Appeal Rules as they applied to appellants who, under section 1 of the 1968 Act had a right of appeal to the Court to Appeal without the leave of that court upon all questions of law or fact or mixed law and fact involved in the trial that resulted in their conviction.

Those rules entitled, and indeed required, such persons to give notice of any grounds on which they proposed to rely on the hearing of the appeal. No limitation was imposed by the rules upon the grounds that such appellants might rely on.

Counsel for the Crown submitted that the restrictive effect that had been attributed to section 19(a) of the 1907 Act by judicial decisions from 1956 onwards had to be understood as expressing the intention of Parliament when the same words were re-enacted by it in section 17(1) (a) of the 1968 Act.

The role that judicial construction of particular words and phrases used in previous statutes might play in the interpretation of the same words in subsequent statutes *in pari materia* was the subject of discussion in four of the speeches in the House in *Barras v Aberdeen Steam Trawling & Fishing Co Ltd* ([1933] AC 402).

The divergence between the different speeches made it a thoroughly unsatisfactory authority for any rule of statutory construction of general application or one that could assist the Crown in the instant case.

It was certainly no authority for either of the propositions: (a) that mere failure by Parliament to take an opportunity of passing amending legislation to substitute other words for those which had been construed by a court that was not one of final resort as having borne a meaning which the House subsequently held to have been incorrect, could throw any retrospective light on the intention of a differently constituted Parliament at the time that the Act to be construed was passed; or (b) that re-enactment of *ipsissima verba* of an existing statute in an Act that was passed for the purposes of consolidation only (which was subject to a special parliamentary procedure precluding debate upon the merits of any of the individual clauses) was capable of having any effect upon the construction of those words.

Moreover, the legislative history of section 19(a) from the date of the decision in *Caborn-Waterfield* in 1956 and its incorporation in a pure consolidation Act as section 17(1)(a) of the 1968 Act itself put paid to any submission on the lines Mr Leary sought to advance.

It was difficult to think of any explanation for the amendment of the 1907 Act by Schedule 3 of the 1960 Act other than a parliamentary intention to overrule the effect of the judgment of Lord Goddard in *Caborn-Waterfield*.

In *Stones (No 2)* the attention of the court did not appear to have been drawn to the change of wording of section 19(a).

There was no reason that could justify their Lordships in giving to the words of section 17(1)(a) of the 1968 Act any meaning other than their natural and ordinary meaning, which his Lordship found to be plain and free from any ambiguity. Therefore the answer to the question certified was "Yes".

It followed that *Stones (No 2)* and all subsequent decisions in which *Caborn-Waterfield* had been applied to references under section 17(1)(a) of the 1968 Act, including among others *R v Bardoe* ([1969] 1 WLR 398) were to be treated as overruled.

As had been demonstrated by the briefness of the additional time that it had taken to hear the instant appeal in consequence of their Lordships' acceptance of the appellant's invitation to dispose of the reference finally by hearing argument on the grounds relied on other than fresh evidence, that did not mean that the time taken up in references under section 17(1)(a) was likely to be significantly increased.

Where, on such a reference, an appellant sought to argue grounds of appeal which not only were unconnected with the reasons in the Home Secretary's letter referring the case, but also had been unsuccessfully relied on in a previous appeal or application for leave to appeal against conviction in the case that had been referred, the court which heard the reference would have had before it and have read the judgment of the Court of Appeal in the previous appeal or application for leave to appeal.

While it was true that the doctrine of issue estoppel played no part in criminal law *R v Humphrys* ([1977] AC 1), the court that heard the reference would give weight to that previous judgment, from which it would be very slow to differ, unless it was persuaded that some cogent argument that had not been advanced at the previous hearing would, if it had been properly developed at such hearing, have resulted in the appeal against conviction being allowed.

The summing up was a model of clarity, accuracy and fairness in a case of considerable complexity and his Lordship remained wholly unconvinced that any inconsistencies and weaknesses in the accomplice evidence as Mr O'Connor had drawn to their Lordships' attention had the cumulative effect of rendering unsafe or unsatisfactory the jury's verdict on any of the three counts.

The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co, Director of Public Prosecutions.

Granting bail pending appeal

Practice Direction: (Crime: Bail Pending Appeal)

The Lord Chief Justice, sitting in the Court of Appeal Criminal Division on November 10 with Mr Justice Mustill and Mr Justice Leonard, handed down a Practice Direction relating to bail granted by a crown court judge pending appeal to the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division).

The Practice Direction, which referred to sections 1(2) and 11(1A) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 and section 81(1B) of the Supreme Court Act 1981, stated that the procedure was described in the *Guide to Proceedings in the Court of Appeal Criminal Division*, which was available at crown courts and was to be found in ((1983) 77 Cr App R 138) and ([1983] Crim L R 145).

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the procedure was also set out in outline on Criminal Appeal Office Form C (crown court judge's certificate of fitness for appeal) and Form BC (crown court judge's order granting bail), copies of which were held by the crown court.

The court clerk would ensure that those forms were always available when a judge heard an application under those provisions.

His Lordship continued that the judge might well think it right: (a) to hear the application in chambers with a shorthand-writer present; (b) to invite the defendant's counsel to submit before the hearing of the application a draft of the grounds which he would ask the judge to certify on Form C. Counsel for the Crown would be better able to assist the judge at the hearing if the draft ground was sent beforehand to him also.

The first question was whether there existed a particular, and cogent, ground of appeal. If there was no such ground there could be no certificate, and if there was no certificate there could be no bail.

A judge should not grant a certificate with regard to sentence merely in the light of mitigation to which he had, in his opinion, given due weight, nor in regard to conviction on a ground where he considered the chance of a successful appeal was not substantial.

The judge should bear in mind that, where a certificate was refused, application might be made to the Court of Appeal for leave to appeal and for bail.

The length of the period which might elapse before the hearing of the appeal was not a ground of appeal appropriate to the judge's certificate.

That period, if there was otherwise good ground for a certificate, might be one factor in the decision whether or not to grant bail; but a judge who was minded to take that factor into account might find it advisable to have the court clerk contact the Criminal Appeal Office listing co-ordinator in order that he might have an accurate and up-to-date assessment of the likely waiting time. The co-ordinator would require a general account of the weight and urgency of the case.

Where the defendant's representative considered that bail should be applied for as a matter of urgency the application should normally be made, in the first instance, to the trial judge, and the Court of Appeal might decline to treat such an application as urgent if there was no good reason why it had not been made to the trial judge.

Official Solicitor should be guardian ad litem

In re J D (a minor)

In wardship proceedings where the court had decided that there were special reasons requiring that the minor be joined as a defendant (*Practice Direction: Child: Joinder as Party* ([1982] 1 WLR 118)) the Official Solicitor should always be the first person invited to consent to be appointed as the *guardian ad litem*.

If the Official Solicitor consented to the appointment but the plaintiffs or the defendants or the ward (if a teenager) expressed the view, preferably in writing, that some other person should be appointed to act as *guardian ad litem*, then it was appropriate for the registrar to refer the question to a judge of the Family Division.

In those cases where the Official Solicitor refused consent on the ground that the case was not suitable for the appointment of a *guardian ad litem* then if it was thought that there was a requirement for the appointment of a *guardian ad litem* that matter should also be referred to a judge.

Mrs Justice Heilbron gave those directions in a Family Division judgment delivered in chambers in Bristol on October 19 and released for publication on November 9.

HER LADYSHIP said that the Official Solicitor was able to form an objective and independent assessment as to what was in the best interests of the ward. The duties of the Official Solicitor as *guardian ad litem* did not end at the conclusion of the hearing and he was often called upon to assist in working out the order and to provide a channel of communication between the parties.

The case had thrown into sharp relief the problems which could arise when the ward was not represented by the Official Solicitor but by a solicitor acting as *guardian ad litem*. The solicitor had approached the case impartially but her situation had been difficult and restrictive.

Corrections

In *Shah v Swallow* (*The Times* November 9, 1983), paragraph five of his Lordship's judgment should have read:

The court had to decide whether the document constituted one information alleging five offences, or one document containing five informations. If the former the justices should not have proceeded to try it; that was contrary to rule 12(1) of the Magistrates' Court Rules 1981. If the latter, they were right to do so, provided that the parties had consented thereto or that the justices were of the view that the overall interests of justice required it: see *Chief Constable of Norfolk v Clayton* (*The Times* March 19, 1983; [1983] 2 WLR 555).

In *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Gunnell* (*The Times* November 3) the sentence "He had received treatment by drugs and in the form of cannabis in order to suppress his sexual urges" should have read "He had received treatment by drugs in the form of tablets in order to suppress his sexual urges".

Key to the coffers of the big spenders

Tenders can cost £12,000 say small firms

by Andrew Cornelius

One of the most crucial government initiatives for small businesses is the attempt to channel a greater proportion of the public sector's £50 billion annual spending on goods and services in the small firms sector.

Top of the government spenders is the Ministry of Defence which spends £7 billion a year, but recent initiatives to open the door to government contracts for small firms apply to the National Health Service, HMSO, the nationalised industries and local government.

The government has made it clear that there will be no more discrimination in favour of small firms which must be competitive on price, quality and delivery to win orders. However, a key objective of the government – inspired public purchasing initiative which was launched in 1980 has been to remove some of the obstacles which tend to discriminate against small firms they compete for government orders.

The Association of Independent Businesses highlights some of the problems in a survey which was sent to the Department of Trade and Industry earlier this year. One of the fundamental conclusions of the survey was that the complicated purchasing procedures adopted by government departments favour larger companies with specialised departments.

Typical of the problem encountered was a contract valued at about £5,000 where the tender document ran to 29 pages and referred to reader to another 22 documents. Other small firms complained that it can cost up to £12,000 to meet the requirements demanded of an MOD supplier with no guarantees that work would be forthcoming.

In a bid to make it easier for small firms to win this type of business the Department of Trade and Industry has set up a small unit to co-ordinate government purchasing policy and break down some of the barriers which prevent small firms from winning contracts.

Early objectives were to improve the dialogues between the public sector and its suppliers, to simplify the specifications demanded by the government and to encourage industry to adopt a more positive attitude towards the use of new technology in the products it supplied.

After three years the policy appears to be paying off and officials report that government departments are more willing to talk to their suppliers perhaps to explain why they lost a contract and to suggest areas of improvement to give them a better chance of winning business next time.

Government departments, particulary the MOD, are also demanding performance-based specifications for their products rather than specifying how each product should be made, down to the last nut and bolt.

DTI ministers have also made an effort to brief department heads and the chairmen of nationalised industries to explain the new guidelines and stress the importance of buying British wherever it is possible.

In 1981 initiative was taken a stage further after a specific study of the needs of small firms. This showed the need to modify the system of approved lists of suppliers which tended to discriminate against small firms. One of the key chages implemented was that there was no need to become an approved supplier (except in areas of high security) to win contracts of £5000 or less.

In addition, where non-urgent contracts are involved, small firms are able to tender for the work first and go through the approved vetting procedures only if they are awarded a contract.

Government departments have also been encouraged to rotate the firms they include on their approved lists to counter criticism that few firms were ever added to the list, and even if they were the newcomers were seldom used.

The DTI and MOD have also taken a much more aggressive approach towards purchasing and have produced booklets freely available to small firms to explain where they can obtain details of government contracts, and with long lists of government purchasing contacts."

Launching the new MOD booklet "Selling to the MOD" last month, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, minister of state (defence procurment) said that defence provides a wealth of opportunities for small firms, both as direct contractors or subcontractors to the major equipment suppliers.

Another major area of concern has been the failure to harmonise government purchasing procdures. The DTI is currently working on a project which will result, next year, in the provision of a single form for the whole of government for firms attempting to win approved supplier status.

A further study is taking place to examine whether there would be a demand from small firms for a central databank of information on Government procurement needs, contact points, approved procedures and up to a minute lists of contracts viewable on Prestel.

The intention is to provide a central register of information for small firms to replace an existing system which makes it virtually impossible to get an overview of government, or individual department needs.

One of the few exception is HMSO, which has published a detailed assessment of its purchasing needs from 1982 to 1987.

Tendering for Government contracts: available free of charge by contacting the Small Firms Service on Freefone 2444.

Selling to the MOD: available free of charge from: Industrial Policy Division 1, Room 2328 Main Building, Ministry of Defence, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB. Telephone: 01-218-2695.

A guide to HMSO's requirements for goods and services 1982-87 and beyond: Contact J. W. Brunton, HMSO, Norwich (0603) 22211 ext 6459.

An East-End showcase

by Derek Harris

London Fashion Centre, set up in the East End where there is still a myriad of small manufacturers in the clothing trade, has started its second year of operation with a fortnight's concentration on the lingerie and separates sector.

Amid a flow of buyers this week, some of them from abroad, the centre's director David Jones added up a scorecard of successes for the centre which claims to be unique in Britain as a public sector-funded enterprise which offers low-price exhibition space.

He said: "There are around 15,000 small clothing manufacturers in east and north London and Hackney, our base, alone accounts for best part of 6,000 of them. We have already increased the order books for a good number of existing manufacturers and there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of farmed-out work coming into the area. At least ten new businesses have started because of the centre's work which includes a technical and design advisory service."

Nearly 100,000 garments a week are being diverted to British production which might otherwise have gone abroad. It is the London makers which have mostly benefited.

Most companies showing at the regular exhibitions at the centre are small ones producing bread-and-butter ranges of goods but the centre has also mounted exhibitions in the couture category.

Among the exhibitors this week is Jean Grahame, who trades as Jean at Charles Grahame and has been in the trade for more than 20 years, ten years a designer of up-market silk lingerie. A negligée from her Hackney factory – there is another in Kent – can cost £300 in the shops and a pair of knickers £30.

With her goods selling in the top department stores and in 50 countries round the world, Jean Grahame does not need to look to the centre for new sales but she said: "I believe the centre is doing a marvellous job for those who are just starting out. It is a good showcase and puts people in touch with people.

That's why as a local manufacturer I like to support the centre."

Manufacturers using the centre take out an associate membership costing £100 a year. They get exhibitions at least once a year and sometimes twice without further payment.

● Contact: London Fashion Centre, 46 Great Eastern Street, London EC2; telephone (01) 729 0962. Primarily the centre aims to cater for companies in north and east London.



David Jones, Jean Grahame and one of the London fashion Centre attractions — Sareah Karadis

New centre opening at Worcester

■ A national trade centre where small businesses in retailing can tap a wide range of expertise and services, as well as low-price exhibition, conference and training facilities, is being planned by the Association of Independent Retailers (AIR), Derek Harris writes.

It is due to start operation by next March at AIR's headquarters building at Worcester, conveniently near the M5 motorway.

The idea has sprung largely from AIR's worries over the decline of small grocers as the big multiple grocery chains, with the buying muscle to get lower prices from suppliers, have taken bigger slices of the market.

The centre will not confine its help to grocers, any type of retailer being welcome. Membership of AIR, which costs £50 a year, will automatically give a small retailer access to whatever the centre has on offer although Mr Bill Banning AIR's chief executive, says his team is always willing where possible to help any retailer with a tricky problem.

Among those already on the new centre's advisory council is Mr John White, the village shops survival specialist with the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA), Dr David Kirby, a leading authority on the small retailer, and Mr Geoffrey Beer, associate director of Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry company.

The centre will be offering 20 offices at £25 a week, about a third lower than the going rate

Contact: Association of Independent Retailers, Newtown Road, Worcester, WR5 1JX; telephone (0905) 28165.

■ Increasing demand for small factory workshops by small businesses is reported by the Development Commission, best known for the work of its principal agency the Council for Small Industries in Rural areas (CoSIRA).

CoSIRA, helpmeet for small businesses on a wide front, mainly by providing financial and technical services, has itself been 12 per cent busier with inquiries from small companies. CoSIRA spent £4.5m out of the Commission's total spending of £16m in tackling economic and social problems in rural areas, another £8m having gone on factory building.

During the year to last March, 134 advance workshop units were completed – up by nearly half on the previous year – and a record 168 units were let to new occupiers. That was a 160 per cent jump on the previous year. Mr Nigel Vinson, the Commission's chairman, says the high level of demand is continuing.

The Commission has extended its 35 per cent grant scheme towards the cost of converting redundant buildings, with schemes for the creation of workshops taking priority.

The geographical scope of the grant scheme has been widened and all types of buildings, not just farm buildings as hitherto, are included in the scheme.

Contact: Development Commission, 11 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NA; telephone (01) 222 9134.

■ Three city institutions and Britain's only private university have joined forces. Royal Life Insurance, the BP Pension Fund and TR Technology Investment Trust, together with the Cranfield Institute of Technology, launched a £500,000 company called Base International to bridge the gap between research and development laboratories and companies needing bright ideas and money.

Base was the brainchild of John Castle, its managing director, who conceived the idea when working for a multinational chemical company. Two years ago he approached Sir Henry Chilber, vice chancellor of the Cranfield Institute, and Chilber is now chairman of Base International.

The theory behind the company is that while British scientists and engineers produce world-beating innovations there is no mechanism to help develop them into profitable products. Base will buy or license technology from four kinds of R and D labs – government establishments, universities, corporate laboratories and contract R and D Firms

MR FRIDAY



"The problem is how to grow big enough to benefit from it"

also on page 24

TENNIS: VIOLATIONS OF CLICHE ON "A SPORTSMAN AND A GENTLEMAN"

A fine lesson for Connors

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Jimmy Connors, who is competing in the Benson and Hedges Championships at Wembley for the third time and has yet to be beaten, defeated Hank Pfister 6-4, 6-1 yesterday but was fined a total of £648.30 on two separate but related counts: audible and visual obscenities. For the United States champion, the pounds may be almost as irrelevant as the pence. But his violations of that old cliche about "a sportsman and a gentleman" have, so to speak, been noted.

All this contrasted sharply with a little incident that occurred when Tomas Smid, 3-6 and 3-5 down to Andres Gomez, was about to serve – to stay in the match. Smid had a blister on a foot, had problems with his shoes, and wanted to change them (that is, the shoes). The resident grand prix supervisor – these are the experts on interpreting the rules – said Smid was not permitted to exceed the 30-second interval.

Gomez instantly indicated that if Smid's shoes were coming apart he should be allowed to change them ("The guy could kill himself"). So Smid changed his shoes. Both Gomez and and the supervisor are to be congratulated. There are times – and this was one of them – when the spririt of the rule should override the small print.

The afternoon's proceedings were punctuated by one of those heavily portentous gatherings at which the administrative staff of men's professional tennis tell us what they have been up to. This one was to announce another outbreak of peace between World Championship Tennis, the Dallas-based promoters, and the council who govern the grand prix circuit.

Formed in 1967, WCT ran their own show until 1978, when they began an uneasy four-year stint as part of the grand prix series. Last year they re-asserted their independence and ten months ago they began legal proceedings based, briefly, on allegations that the council were trying to monopolise men's professional tennis and, in the process, were not playing fair. Now, WCT have dropped the law suit and have agreed that, as from 1985, they will toe the grand prix line for five years.

The men's Association of Tennis Professionals, the players' "union", also have independent leanings but for the time being cannot afford to indulge them. So they agreed, last year, that from 1983 to 1987 inclusive they would work with the grand prix council – thus throwing their weight behind the grand prix rather than maintaining a neutral role between the grand prix and WCT circuits. This is illogical, because competition between different circuits is in the players' interests and, in any case, a labour union should be independent.

It is quetionable whether the ATP can – or should – continue to work in harness with a council on which the International Tennis Federation are represented in equal strength.

The ITF, after all, are primarily concerned with tennis as a whole, which is 99 per cent amateur and involves both sexes. The best that can be said about the present experimental team-work between the ATP, the ITF and WCT is that a credible governing body for men's professional tennis could eventually emerge from it.

For a long time the day's tennis was not a great deal more interesting than the political sideshow. Steve Denton has a 6-3, 6-0 win over a Dutch qualifier, Michel Schapers. Denton is the kind of man who keeps popping up in western movies. He is large and menacing, moves slowly when there is no need to move fast, but exudes awful possibilities. When Denton's first service lands in court, that tends to be the end of the rally. For most players the service is he beginning of a rally but when Denton is serving he likes to regard it as the end.

In the first set Denton lost only two points (both double-faults) in five service games for the match. Schapers was suffering from shell-shock. The Dutchman has won three matches in the qualifying competition, had beaten the seeded Johan Kriek in the first round, and had already won £2,755 when he went on court yesterday. He had reached the end of the road.

There is 6 feet 5½ inches of Schapers and much of it is slightly folded as if in imminent danger of collapse. Yesterday he had break points against him in every service game but, conversely, only twice had chances to break Denton's. When Denton serves well, as he did yesterday, only players of the highest class can resist him.

Gomez is a big left-hander who hits so hard and so deep that the pressure can break almost anyone. That was how it was for most of his match with Smid, whose jerky movements suggest that he must be a puppet manipulated by strings. Smid did lead 3–0 in the second set but then lost five consecutive games. He did his best to move Gomez and try to outsmart him. But when Gomez is in form, he is too good for players like Smid. Gomez is very much more than a big hitter. He has a sure touch, too, notable on his lobs. The last game of the match summed up his versatility. The four points he needed were won by a forehand top-spun lob, an ace, a forehand winner and a backhand volley.

Connors was too quick and flexible for Pfister, who had much more dificulty in reading the pattern of the rallies. Connors was particularly impressive on the forehand and suspects that this may arise from his use of a different kind of racquet. In view of his subsequent crimes there was much irony in a comment Connors made to the effect that he liked playing at Wembley because the atmoshpere



Smashing win: Connors powering his way to triumph at Wembley (Photograph: Chris Cole)

suited him. "People go a little crazy here."

Bill Scanlon, who beat John McEnroe in the United States Championships, was beaten 4-6, 6-7, 6-0 by Henrik Sundstrom, one of the most prominent of the Swedes who have come to the fore in the last few years. As the scores suggest, Scanlon was the better player at first but eventually wilted.

He is more of a dreamer than most players. For much of the match this seemed less important than the fact that he had more experience and competitive confidence than the younger Sundstrom, who has not been around long enough to know how good he can be. But Sundstrom keeps coming up with results like this and it will be interesting to see what he can make of Gomez in the next round.

(x) denotes seeded player
First round: M Schapers (Neth) bt J Kriek (US), 7-6, 1-6, 7-5; T Smid (Cz) bt I Pimek (Cz), 6-2, 6-1; J Connors (US) bt A Maurer (WG), 6-7, 6-1, 6-3; [illegible] W Scanlon (US) bt R Tanner (US), 6-7, 6-0.
Second round: S Denton (US) bt M Schapers (Neth) 6-3, 6-0; A Gomez (Ec) bt T Smid (Cz) 6-3, 6-4; J Connors (US) bt H Pfister (US) 6-4, 6-1.

Miss Gracie has to grit her teeth

By Lewine Mair

Lorrayne Gracie visibly gritted her teeth yesterday to win 6-2, 2-6, 6-0 against Joanne Louis, who had twice previously beaten her, in the quarter-finals of the LTA's international satellite event at Thurleston Tennis Centre, Ipswich.

This morning Miss Gracie, aged 19, must tackle the impressive all-court game of the No 1 seed, Judith Warringa, of the Netherlands; in the other semi-final, Suzie Mair of Scotland, meets Kathleen Shuurmans, of Belguim.

Miss Gracie, who was a runner-up in the British 21 and under championship three seasons ago, has had wins this summer over Kate Brasher, Sara Gomer and Julie Salmon, the 18-and under grass court champion. She has worked hard on her game and the LTA's Sue Mappin is rewarding her efforts with a grant to help with expenses in the United States this winter.

As is so often the way, the relief Miss Gracie felt at having taken the first set affected her concentration at the start of the second. She made a handful of mistakes, and in so doing, prompted a glorious if short-lived burst of winning tennis from the former 16 and under British hard court champion. The third set, however, swung at once in the older girl's favour. After a tentative first game, Miss Gracie played with real relish.

Miss Mair's 6-4, 7-5 defeat of Carol Fullerton took comfortably over two hours. There were frequent interruptions as Miss Fullerton and the player next door discussed which balls belonged to which court.

Once ranked first in the United States at Under-21 level as a doubles player, Miss Fullerton, a coach at Hilton Head, is playing her first tournament in a year.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: J Warringa (Neth) bt A Ituale (It), 6–4, 6–3; L Gracie (GB) bt C Fullerton (US), 6–4, 7–5; K Shuurmans (Bel) bt I Cueto (WG), 6–2, 3–6, 6–2.

£60,000 for Scots

By Iain Mackenzie

Commercial sponsorship of tennis in Scotland will rise to almost £60,000 next season. The total will reach £80,000 if the search for a backer for the West of Scotland championships is successful.

Douglas Lynd, the Scottish LTA secretary, said yesterday that the biggest single sponsor next year will be Ford, who have guaranteed £32,000 for the grass court championships. En Tout Cas, the equipment manufacturer, is to spend £6,500 on the triangular tournament involving Ireland and Wales at senior, under-18 and under-14 level; Prudential Assurance, Nestlé and Anglo-World Travel will all sponsor

Fraction of relief in Spurs' fine

By Stuart Jones

Tottenham Hotspur, ordered by the League Management committee to pay £10,000 for making illegal payments to players, heard yesterday that a Football League appeals board had reduced the figure by a fifth to £8,000. After the hearing Douglas Alexiou, Tottenham's chairman, said that he was disappointed about the outcome.

"The board took the rather unusual step of recommending that the appeal fee be returned to the club," he said. "I think that suggests they considered we had some justification for making our appeal. It is a nominal fee, £200, but it is the principle that matters. I will report to our directors, who will consider our position."

The fine was originally imposed when Tottenham were found guilty of breaking the rule that all players' earnings must be contained within their contracts. It was allegd that Tottenham made tax free payments to their Argentine imports, Ardiles and Villa, through a Channel Islands trust linked to a charity for the blind.

The appeal board's decision, taken by Sir Harold Thompson, Jack Hayward and Harold Smith who are all FA councillors, is final and Tottenham would probably have to go to a civil court should they wish to take the matter any further. Although their Milk Cup tie against Arsenal on Wednesday night yielded record receipts, their financial problems are not over.

UEFA's disciplinary committee met yesterday to discuss the crowd violence that marred their victory over Feyenoord in the second leg of the UEFA Cup second round tie nine days ago. Tottenham expect to hear the verdict today and, although they claim they are innocent of all blame, they would not be surprised to be fined again.

The club insist that even if they had not bought any tickets and had not taken any supporters with them, they would under the current regulations still be held responsible for trouble caused by hooligans who are not connected to them. They have a point.

Supporters to march in protest

Luton Town supporters are to hold a protest march through the town before the club's first division game with Birmingham City tomorrow as part of a demonstration against the clubs directors.

The Mayor of Luton, Councillor Frank Lester, and representatives of all three parties of the local council will attend the rally to back the supporter's campaign against Luton's planned move to Milton Keynes 20 miles away. The council disputes the Luton director's claim that Kenillworth road will be unusable for football after a new road is driven past one side of the ground.

The supporters club want the directors to sell out to a rival group of local businessmen who have pledged to keep the club in Luton.

The 11 volunteer stewards who look after young supporters of Luton in their Junior Hatters club enclosure on match days, all resigned in protest over the club's plans to move.

They are forming their own rival junior supporters club dedicated to keeping the first division club in Luton.

Speculation that Wolverhampton Wanderers could soon be up for sale again was quashed yesterday by the chief executive of the club's owner, Allied Properties.

Following the official winding up of the old Wolves company, John Starkey, who is also one of the new Wolves directors, said Allied Property had no intention of selling the Molineux club currently at the bottom of the first division.

He said: "Allied Properties would like to put an end once and for all to the utterly unfounded rumours which have been circulating recently. The company has no intention of selling Wolverhampton Wanderers or withdrawing from their involvement with the town.

FOOTBALL: TOP-HEAVY MILK CUP DRAW

Unbearable burdens rest on the giants' broad shoulders

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The Milk Cup is again overflowing with first division clubs. Thirteen of them spilled out of a top-heavy draw for the fourth round yesterday and, although at least two more will drop out after the replays at Birmingham City and Norwich City, only one representative from the lower divisions is sure to make their way through to the last eight.

But for giants whose schedule is already full, the competition has become a dangerous, if profitable, pastime. Liverpool, the holders for three years, and Manchester United, the losing finalists last season, could by March be looking in four directions. That, as Ipswich Town and Tottenham Hotspur discovered recently, is an unbearable strain.

Robinson, Liverpool's new centre forward, admitted that he found there is no time to relax. "We must win this one" is an order he has heard echoing around their dressing room before each kick-off. Now one, probably two and possibly more fixtures have been added to their lengthy list.

There is a limit even to Liverpool's endurance. After brushing Queen's Park Rangers off their own carpet, dousing the fires of Bilbao and overpowering their neighbours from Everton, it is not surprising that they should almost fall flat at Fulham. They are still expected to win both the rematch at Anfield and be away at either Birmingham or Notts County.

United, the joint favourites, should visit an old haunt of their manager and his assistant. Ron Atkinson was captain of Oxford United for nine years and Mick Brown was in charge for five years. "We both know all about Manor Road", Atkinson said, "and I fancy that is where we'll be going after the replay.

"The pitch is sloping and very tight, like Colchester's where we won on Tuesday, but the players would be more accustomed to the conditions at Leeds", Brown remembers that his Oxford side took the lead against United in a third round FA cup tie seven years ago, only to concede two penalties.

Walsall will recall an even more memorable day at the same stage of the same competition in January 1933. They knocked out the mighty Arsenal side that won the title five times and the Cup twice during the decade. Fifty years on, they would cause almost as much of a stir if they triumph at Highbury.

West Bromwich Albion, beaten by the odd goal in seven at Villa Park in August, and Everton, defeated at home by West Ham United in the same month, are preparing for revenge by Ipswich must wait until November 22 to plan their strategy. Norwich City's replay at Sunderland had been put back because Devine is on duty with the Republic of Ireland next week.

Sheffield Wednesday, the only unbeaten team in the League, may also be involved in a local derby. Huddersfield Town, who held out for a goalless draw at Stoke City, became the first visitors to leave Hillsborough with a point a fortnight ago. The crowd for the second division fixture was almost 28,000.

Rotherham and Wimbledon, giant-killers from the third division who have accounted for Nottingham Forest, Luton Town and Southampton between them, will be disappointed to have been paired together. For the losers, there will be the compensation of £16,000. For the winners, there will be the joy of holding the last drop of romance in the Milk Cup.

Good response

Injury-hit Watford have received over 250 replies to their advert asking for players, which appeared in "The Times" last week – and they are still coming in. "The response has been amazing", a spokesman said last night, "and, funnily enough, many people have taken the ad seriously.

The age group has ranged from eight to 80, and a large number have been women."

Eric Black, of Aberdeen, has withdrawn from Scotland's under-21 squad to travel to East Germany next week. Black, aged 21, who missed most of this season with a back injury, broke down again in a closed door match.

Milk Cup Fourth round draw

Arsenal v Walsall
Birmingham City or Notts County v Fulham or Liverpool
Ipswich Town v Norwich City or Sunderland
Leeds United or Oxford United v Manchester United
Rotherham United v Wimbledon
Stoke City or Huddersfield Town v Sheffield Wednesday
West Bromwich Albion v Aston Villa
West Ham United v Everton

Everton get Gray for £250,000

Everton's need to sign Andy Gray in time to play against Nottingham Forest tomorrow forced the Scottish international to sign a one month loan transfer from Wolverhampton Wanderers yesterday instead of the planned £250,000 permanent move.

A football league official said: "It needs fewer forms to register a temporary move than a permanent transfer and time was very tight. But it is understood a permanent move is agreed between both parties."

Gray's form arrived at the League's Lytham St Annes headquarters five minutes before the deadline 5pm yesterday. The clubs had agreed a move after a medical check on the knee injury which troubled Gray earlier this season. The fee to be paid eventually represents a major loss for Wolverhampton Wanderers who four years ago paid a then British record of £1.5m to Aston Villa for the forward.

Eveton, the lowest scorers in the league this season with seven goals from a dozen games, stepped in for Gray when their top scorer, Graeme Sharp, suffered knee ligament damage in the Mik Cup win over Coventry on Wednesday. Sharp, who headed the winning goal in injury time, is almost certain to be ruled out of tomorrow's match.

Gray, renowned mainly for his aerial power, played for Dundee



Gray: new challenge

United before joining Aston Villa in October, 1975 for £110,000. He scored 67 goals in 136 appearances for Villa,. playing in the drawn League Cup final with Everton at Wembley in 1977 but missing the second replay which Villa won 3-2.

His move to Wolves is Septembeg 1979 when Ron Saunders re-shaped the Villa side, led to another League Cup final appearance and another winner's medal as scorer of the only goal against Nottingham Forest in the 1980 final.

Gray said: "I am delighted and excited about my new challenge, I will be looking for all the help I can get on Saturday but after that it shouldn't take too long to settle in. I'll be scoring as many goals as I can but part of my job is to help others score."

Everton's manager, Howard Kendall, said: "I was grateful to have the money available to buy such a quality stiker. In this price bracket, Gray is top of the list and I see an exciting partnership ahead with Greame Sharp."

Gray had scored 42 goals in 146 games for Wolves to the start of this season but has often been used in midfield recently and has scored only twice this season. He made his Scotland debut aged 20 in the European Championship match with Romania on December 17, 1975, but injuries have restricted him to only 19 caps in eight years.

He was passed over for the 1978 and 1982 World Cup finals after being named in original 40-strong squads. He last played for Scotland on the summer tour of Canada. He withdrew from the squad to face Uruguay in September with a knee injury and did not appear in the squad for a European Championship game against Belgium last month.

Fans give a £40,000 kiss of life

By Paul Newman

Northwich Victoria have been saved from extinction by the generosity of their supporters. At a High Court hearing in London, which had been asked to windup the Alliance Premier League club because they owed more than £40,000 to the Inland Revenue and Customs and Exercise, Northwich were allowed to remain in business after announcing that they had raised enough money to pay off their debts.

Northwich, who were formed in 1874 and are the oldest club in the Alliance League, owed £6,000 in VAT on gate receipts. Most of their debt, however, was income tax on players' pay which had built up over *a period of years*. When Northwich learned several weeks ago that they were being taken to court, a number of fund-raising schemes were launched, but less than a week before the hearing they had raised only half the figure owed.

Derek Nuttall, the Northwich chairman, said: "The late surge of support was remarkable. Industry in the area has helped enormously, as has the supporters' association. We made a final appeal on Sunday, when the directors and players waited on the pitch to accept donations. Hundreds of supporters came along and between them gave more than £3,000. That made us feel that saving the club was really worthwhile.

"Raising this money has cleared our debts, and given us the chance to reorganize. Within the next few days the board of directors will announce plans to streamline the Club and run it on a more businesalike basis."

● The death of Bill Dellow, aged 74, has robbed non-League football of one of its most respected administrators. Mr Dellow was secretary of the Southern League from 1956 until 1982, when he became chief executive. He had *been treasurer of the league since* 1971.

● An Alliance League board of inquiry have ordered the abandoned match between Yeovil Town and Barnet last month to be replayed. Barnet were leading 1-0 midway through the second half when a goalpost broke and the game was abandoned. Yeovil will bear all the costs of the replayed match and any profit will be shared between the two clubs.

● John Bartley, the Maidstone United forward, scored his 500th goal in non-League football last week. Bartley, aged only 25, registered his first 437 goals for Welling United and also scored eight times in 40 matches for Millwall.

● Two stalwarts of Altrincham's FA Cup and Alliance League successes of recent seasons have left the club. Malcolm Bailey, a central defender, has joined Telford United and Barry Howard a forward, has moved to Hyde United.

● The good form of Burton Albion and South Liverpool is bringing in the crowds at the two Northern Premier League clubs. Burton, who at a recent league game had an attendance of more than 1,600, *attracted a crowd of 2,166 for their* FA Cup fourth qualifying round replay against Walthamstow Avenue. South Liverpool were watched by a crowd of 723.

● Larry Pritchard, the assistant manager of Sutton United, has ended his playing career. Pritchard, aged 39, made 780 appearences for Sutton and has been with the club since 1965, apart from a four-year spell at Wycombe Wanderers. Pritchard won 48 England amateur caps and four Isthmian League championship medals.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Execution put back

By Keith Macklin

Although no new investors or benefactors have come forward with injections of cash, Bramley, the stricken West Yorkshire club, have been granted another stay of execution. At a meeting of shareholders in Leeds yesterday it was agreed that a further 28 days would elapse before making an recommendation that Bramley, who are £100,000 in debt, be put into liquidation.

Fingers are being crossed in the hope that wealthy philanthropists who are dedicated followers of Rugby League will move in to save the club. The players did not help the cause last weekend when they turned down a £4,000 windfall in the shape of a John Player Special Trophy game with Hull Kingston Rovers.

There is considerable doubt whether Bramley can play any fixtures without help from the Rugby Union League. Doug Alton, their former chairman, said after *yesterday's meeting of shareholders:* "Some of us are determined to fight on. Other clubs in Rugby League and football, have been in worse financial situations than Bramley and have survived."

Great Britain Under-24 play France Under-24 this afternoon in Villeneuve, and are looking for their twelfth consecutive victory over the French at this level. The Great Britain side has been chopped and changed because of injuries.

EQUESTRIANISM

Show on the road again

By Jenny MacArthur

The Royal International Horse Show, the oldest of Britain's international shows, is to move outside London for the first time in its 76 year history. The 1984 show will be held at Birmingham's national exhibition centre from 13 to 17 June and will be combined with the annual Birmingham show jumping championships held in the spring.

Financial considerations have necessitated what will be the show's fifth move. The Royal International is in theory the main money-spinner for the British Horse Society but for the last three years it has lost money. The switch to the outdoor venue of White City this year from Wembley was not a success. The public, separated from the arena by the greyhound track, felt too remote – and the show lost more than £20,000.

A working party was set up to look at other possible venues. Of the three principal alternatives, Hickstead, the most obvious choice, with its fine ground, was "not financially viable", and the East of England Showground presented problems for the BBC, who cover the show. Birmingham had no obvious drawbacks and the favourable terms offered by the centre together with its accessibility and ideal facilities settled the issue.

Dorian Williams, who succeeded Sir John Mogg as chairman of the show last month, said the change of date had been necessary because the show's usual July date was too close to the Olympics. It was not possible to take the old Birmingham date in the spring because the show ponies and hunters, which are very much a feature of the Royal International, would not be ready so early in the year. The loss of Cardiff from the international calendar made the June date available.

Riders past and present have welcomed the new venue but, as Ted Edgar points out, "it's very sad to be losing another show".

BADMINTON

Doubles worry

By Richard Eaton

Denmark, easily, and England, with unexpected difficulty, moved with differing speeds towards the same destination, victory over Sweden and a meeting at Gateshead last night to help decide which is Europe's leading badminton nation.

England hold the European title (played over five matches) but on the evidence of two of the three seven match encounters in the last two days, defending that title in Preston in April will be difficult. England had to work for their 4-3 win over Sweden at Leeds on Wednesday, while Denmark at Gateshead yesterday afternoon won 6-1 with a swagger.

The English success was attributed largely to the flowering crop of youngsters. Nick Yates, aged 22, Steve Butler, aged 20, (substituting for another 22 year-old, the injured Steve Baddeley) and Helen Troake, aged 19, all won their singles, while Nigel Tier, winning his first cap at the ripe age of 25, made victory certain by beating in partnership with Duncan Bridge, Lars Wenberg and Torbjorn Pettersen.

Despite this the main worry is in doubles, traditionally England's area of world class strength. Gillian Gilks lost twice, in the mixed doubles with Martin Dew and in the women's doubles with Jane Webster as a trial partnership for the UBER Cup in February. The mixed loss of Mrs Gilks and Dew, European champions and world cup winners, was in some ways the more surprising, even though it was against the elegant, astute and evergreen Tomas Kihlstrom.

Kihlstrom, who is 35 next month, and winner of the world mixed title with Nora Perry, of Engalnd, teamed with 19-year-old Maria Bengtssom, save three match points and won 7-15, 17-14, 15-9 and then followed it with the only Swedish success against Denmark.

Mrs Gilks, is 33, Miss Webster right off form, and Mrs Perry pregnant. Furthermore, Gill Clark, the European title winning partner of Mrs Gilks, is likely to be out for months after her collapse with a knee injury in the Masters womens doubles final.

RESULTS: (Danish names first): J P Nierhoff bt T Petersson 15-4, 15-9; S Fladberg and Miss G Morgenson lost to T Kihlstrom and Miss M Bengtsson 10-15, 6-15; M Frost bt U Johansson 15-8, 15-8; Miss K Larson bt Miss c Magnusson 11-4, 12-8; Fladberg and J Helledie bt Petersson and L Wenbberg 15-8, 15-7; Miss N Nielsen and Miss D Kjaer bt Miss Magnusson and Miss Bengtsson 15-6, 15-7; Nierhoff and Frost bt Kihlstrom and S Karlsson 18-16, 12-15, 15-9. Final score: Denmark 6, Sweden 1.

£1.8m for circuit

Melbourne (AFP) – The Australian Government is to spend $A2.9m (about £1.8m) upgrading the Sandown Park motor racing circuit in Melbourne in the hope it will be used for a Formula one grand prix in 1985.

RACKETS

Tonbridge pair upset old order

The unseeded Tonbridge second pair Graham Cowdrey and Jonathan Spurling continued their giant-killing progress by forcing their way into Saturday morning's final of the Noel Bruce Cup at Queen's Club when they beat Rugby's elder statesmen Geoffrey Atkins, world champion for 18 years, and Fred Satow last night by 18-13, 15-9, 15-8, 15-5. William Stephens writes.

Uninhibited by the experimental one-service rule, Spurling, 23 served hard with no margin for error and both he and the 19-year-old Cowdrey, displayed an armoury of powerful strokes which overwhelmed the Rugbeians.

Arsenal celebrate

Arsenal's manager, Terry Neill, had double cause for celebration when Charlie Nicholas finally scored and sent Tottenham Hotspur out of the Milk Cup at White Hart Lane on Wednesday evening.

It was the young Scot's first goal since August 29 and his first in London. Neill said: "It's more of a relief to Charlie than to me. But I was pleased because we were overdue a better performance here and we produced it." As Arsenal trooped off to celebrate the 2-1 win, the former Spurs goalkeeper, Pat Jennings, was confronted by Eamonn Andrews, and told "This is your Life."

The England under-21 forward Garry Thompson scored the goal which ended Chelsea's Milk Cup hopes but it could so easily have been the Londoner's leading scorer Kerry Dixon. West Bromwich Albion's manager, Ron Wylie, revealed after his sid'es 1-0 win that he nearly signed Dixon last season. The deal fell through when Dixon, then playing for Reading, was injured.

It was ironic that Wark and Mariner, both transfer-listed because they want wages the East Anglian club say they cannot afford on such meagre support, scored the goals which brought Ipswich a 3-2 victory and a possible lucrative local derby with Norwich City.

MILK CUP: Third round: Aston Villa 3, Manchester City 0; Chelsea 3, West Bromwich Albion 0; Everton 2, Coventry City 1; Ipswich Town 3, Queen's Park Rangers 2; Leeds United 1, Oxford United 1; Norwich City 0, Sunderland 0; Tottenham Hotspur 1, Arsenal 2. FOURTH DIVISION: Chester 0, Blackpool 2.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP: Alloa Athletic 2, Dundee United 4; Morton 4, Motherwell 2; Clydebank 0, Rangers 3; Heart of Midlothian 3, St Mirren 1; Meadowbank Thistle 1, Aberdeen 3; St Johnstone 0, Dundee 3; Celtic 0, Airdrieonians 0; Kilmarnock 3, Hibernian 1.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bob Lord Trophy: Second round, first leg: Scarborough 1, Boston United 0; Yeovil 2, Bath 0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Switzerland 3, Belgium 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	6	4	1	1	12	8	9
Switzerland	6	2	2	2	7	8	6
Scotland	5	1	2	2	7	8	4
East Germany	5	1	1	3	5	6	3

Remaining match: Nov 16: E Germany v Scotland.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton 0, Aston Villa 4; Nottingham Forest 3, Blackburn 0; West Bromwich Albion 2, Stoke 1; Sheffield Wednesday 0, Liverpool 1. Second division: Huddersfield 1, Bradford City 2. Postponed: Barnsley v Preston.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Sutton Coldfield 0, Bedworth 2.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Erith and Belvedere 0, Oxford United 0; Gravesend and Northfleet 1, Woking 1; Reading 1, Cambridge United 1.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT: Belgium 1, France 1; Yugoslavia 5, Italy 1; Poland 1, Norway 0.

ULSTER CUP: Semi-final: Coleraine 1, Newry 0.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Oxford University 2, FA XI 7; London University 0, Southern Amateur League 3; Sussex County League 2, Kent League 0.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying rounds: South East: East Anglia 0, Brunel 1; Surrey 1, Kent 2.

Other match: Loughborough 4, Leicester 0.

ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Wivenoe 1, Chelmsford 0.

BIRMINGHAM SENIOR CUP: VS Rugby 2, Hednesford 0.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Madrid 2, Osasuna 0; Cadiz 1, Zaragoza 2; Real Sociedad 4, Salamanca 0; Valencia 2, Barcelona 4; Malaga 5, Atlético Madrid 1; Betis 1, Sevilla 0; Valladolid 2, Mallorca 0; Gijon 2, Athletic Bilbao 2; Espanol 1, Murcia 1.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff 47, Oxford University 25; Ebbw Vale 9, Swansea 17; Glamorgan Wanderers 17, Abertillery 20; Gloucester 9, South Wales Police 13; Maesteg 13, Neath 6; Newport 28, Pontypridd 8; West Hartlepool 9, Middlesbrough 3.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Loughborough 47, Leicester 0. Qualifying round: South East: East Anglia 16, Brunel 13; Surrey 24, Kent 7.

SCHOOL MATCHES: Ampleforth 22, Stonyhurst 0; Bayhouse 0, Ryde (IOW) 47; Brockenhurst VI Form College 23, Peter Symonds 9; Bromsgrove 9, Wycliffe 15; City of London Freemen's 13, Churchers 32; Falmouth 0, Truro 38; King Edward's Aston 7, North Leamington 18; King Edward's Birmingham 3, Lawrence Sheriff 4; King's, Worcester 16, King Edward's Stourbridge 3; London Oratory 10, Wellington HS 24; Loughborough GS 12, Mount St Mary's Sheffield 12; Magdalen CS, Brackley 49, Gosford Hill 0; Marling 3, St Brendan's Bristol 19; Old Swindon Hosp. 35, Tettenhall 4; Oratory 25, Leighton Park 4; Portsmouth GS 23, St George's Weybridge 7; St Albans 14, Hitchin 10; St Benedict's, Ealing 24, Latymer Upper 8; Sels GS 8, Wirral GS 19; Skinners 8, Haywards Heath 13; West Buckland 22, Blundell's 8 7; Whgift 10, Reigate GS 10; Worksop 12, Wrekin 22.

RUGBY LEAGUE

TOUR MATCH: Oldham League 16, New Zealand Maoris 28.

Francis back in training

Genoa (AP) – Trevor Francis resumed light training yesterday, probably too late for England's vital European Championship game in Luxembourg next Wednesday. Doctors freed Francis's ankle from a plaster cast, which had immobilized his aching tendon for a week.

Sampdoria are confident they will have Francis back by Sunday week but the England manager Bobby Robson would almost certainly have wanted him playing by this weekend to prove his match fitness.

Another international forward, Hans Krankl of Austria, will never play for his country again following their failure to qualify from group six for next year's European Championship finals. Krankl, aged 30, who scored 34 goals in 68 performances for Austria, will concentrate on playing for his club, Rapid Vienna. Krankl made his "irrevocable" choice because he could no longer see a role for himself in the national squad.

West Germany, who are virtually certain of being the group six winners, will face a Northern Ireland side lacking Norman Whiteside next Wednesday in Hamburg. The Manchester United forward is under treatment for a groin strain sustained in Tuesday's Milk Cup tie at Colchester.

The Netherlands, who meet Spain in an important group seven match in Rotterdam next Wednesday, have brought in Erwin Koeman of Groningen to replace the Ajax forward Marco van Basten, who is ill.

Francis: on the mend

Groningen, who are accusing Inter Milan of bribery before last Wednesday's UEFA Cup second round match which Inter won 5–1 (5–3 on aggregate), have reported the matter to UEFA, whose disciplinary committee will discuss the matter.

Liverpool call off Thompson loan

Phil Thompson's planned loan move from Liverpool to Southampton has been cancelled. He is to stay at Anfield and provide first team cover following an injury to reserve defender Gary Gillespie, who received a broken nose in a Central League game on Wednesday night.

Joe Fagan, Liverpool's manager said: "It's unfortunate for Phil, but we must have experienced cover for all first team positions. With Gillespie injured, Phil is the only defender who fits that bill."

Aston Villa will listen to offers for their winger Tony Morley and Des Bremner, members of their European Cup winning side. Both have lost their first team places in the tactical re-shuffle which followed successive home defeats by Arsenal and Moscow Spartak.

Jock Wallace took the Motherwell training as usual yesterday as speculation grew about his expected return to Rangers as manager.

Niall Quinn, a 17 year-old Dublin schoolboy, has signed for Arsenal after turning down offers Australian rules football, Gaelic football and Hurling.

FOR THE RECORD

GOLF

KOBE, Japan: US-Japan men's tournament: First day: C Peete/T Kite bt S Fujiki/Y Hagawa 65-74; H Sutton/D Graham (Aus) bt M Kuramoto/T Nakamura 65-66; L Wadkins/J Miller bt T Nakajima/K Arai 64-69; B Crenshaw/H Irwin bt T Sugihara/I Aoki 64-68. US lead 8-0 (Teams receive two points for a win, one point each for a tie).

MELBOURNE: Victorian PGA Championship: First round: (Australians unless stated). 65 J Lister (NZ). 68 G Merrick, C Bishop. 69 S Reese (NZ), B Wilson. 70 S Bann, P Croker, R Mackay, B Vivien (NZ). 71 N Ratcliffe, Y Somers, M Spencer, I Baker-Finch. 72 D Clark (NZ), W Riley, M Cahill, P Headland, I de Leon (Mex), D Lynch, B Murray (US), M Calendro (US).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Minnesota North Stars 5, Detroit Red Wings 3; Edmonton Oilers 7, Washington Capitals 4; New York Rangers 4, Calgary Flames 3; Buffalo Sabres 3, Boston Bruins 1; Toronto Maple Leafs 2, New Jersey Devils 1; Montreal Canadiens 3, Chicago Black Hawks 0; Winnipeg Jets 7, Vancouver Canucks 2.

ICE SKATING

THE HAGUE: Ennia Cup: Women's short programme: 1, K Witt (EG) 0.4; 2, M Ito (Japan) 0.8; 3, A Kondrashova (USSR) 1.2. British placings 7, S Jackson 2.8; 15, K Wood 6.0.

RUGBY

SCHOOLS MATCH: Birkenhead School 58, St David's College (Llandudno) 3.

SQUASH RACKETS

LONDONDERRY CUP: Harrow bt UCS 4-1. K Connors bt P W Birch; J Rogerson bt R M Phillips; A Speelman lost to A Hulse. M Day-Lawson bt P L Marston; R Titchener-Barrett bt P A Holgate.

TABLE TENNIS

EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Super Division Championship, Third round: West Germany 3, Czechoslovakia 4; Sweden 5, France 2; Hungary 5, England 2; Poland 2, Yugoslavia 5. Standings: 1, Sweden 3pts (17 victories/4 defeats); 2, Yugoslavia 3 (14/7); 3, Czechoslovakia 2 (12/9); 4, Poland 1 (12/9); 5, England 1 (8/13); 6, West Germany 1 (7/14); 7, Hungary 1 (6/15); 8, France 0 (8/13). First division: Finland 7, Spain 0.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Kingston 88 (Richards 24, Ellison 18, Broderick 18), Solent 92 (Johnson 20, Watson 20 Robinson 14). Second Division: Gateshead 75, Newcastle 24.

ASDA CUP: Second round: Bradford 72, Bell 30, Beretta 26), Sunderland 87 (Brandon 23, Wearren 18); Crystal Palace 97 Brighton 80.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New Jersey Nets 127, Washington Bullets 110; Boston Celtics 129, San Diego Clippers 122; Detroit Pistons 120, Philadelphia 76ers 118; San Antonio Spurs 105, Utah Jazz 99; Milwaukee Bucks 95, Kansas City Kings 93; Seattle Supersonics 113, Cleveland Cavilers 101; Los Angeles Lakers 120, Dallas Mavericks 108.

FOOTBALL

Football combination: Birmingham City 5, Brighton and Hove Albion 0; Millwall 1, Luton Town 2.

TENNIS

TAIPEI: Grand Prix tournament (Correction): Second round: R Krishnan (India) bt M Anger (US) 6-2, 6-0. Other second round results: B Gilbert (US) bt J Frawley (Aus) 6-2, 2-6, 6-2; N Odizor (Nigeria) bt W Masur (Aus) 7-6, 6-3; Tim Gullikson (US) bt T Cain (US) 6-4, 6-4.

HONOLULU: Ginny tournament: first round: (US unless stated): S Collins bt A Moulton 6-4, 6-4; K Horvath bt A Minter (Aus) 7-5, 6-7, 6-3; Y Vermaak (SA) bt C Monteiro (Br) 6-3, 6-3. E Sayers (Aus) bt F Raschiatore 7-5, 6-3, G Purdy bt M Skuherska (Cz) 6-4, 6-2; J Harrington bt C Jaxell (Swe) 6-4, 6-4; A Hobbs bt J Mundel (SA) 5-2, 6-4.

DEERFIELD BEACH, Florida: Women's tournament: First round: (US unless stated): B Nagelson (Hawaii) bt V Nelson 1-6, 7-5, 7-5. Second round: B Gadusek bt C Christian 6-0, 6-0, M Torres bt K Skronska (Cz) 6-3, 6-2; C Vanier (Fr) bt K Lathan 4-6, 6-4, 6-3; K Sands bt W White 6-2, 6-1; E Herr bt S Leo (Aus) 6-2, 6-2; K Rinaldi bt M-L Piatek 2-6, 6-2, 6-0; A Smith bt L Arraya (Peru) 6-3, 6-0.

European money list

The final official list of winnings during the 1982 European Tour is:
1, N Faldo (Eng) £119,416; 2, S Ballesteros (Sp) £99,502; 3, B Langer (WG) £73,734; 4, J Canizares (Sp) £68,345; 5, S Lyle (Scot) £54,217; 6, S Torrance (Scot) £50,360; 7, K Brown (Scot) £44,349; 8, E Darcy (Ire) £43,293; 9, I Woosnam (Wales) £43,000; 10, B Waites, (Eng) £42,825; 11, P Way (Eng) £39,122;

Today's fixtures

7.30 unless stated.

FOOTBALL
Second division
Fulham v Sheffield Wednesday.
Third division
Southend v Bournemouth.
Fourth division
Stockport v Halifax.

RUGBY LEAGUE
Slalom Lager Championship: Salford v Bradford Northern.

TENNIS
Benson and Hedges tournament (Wembley Arena).

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GOLF

Fernandez outshines all the bright young things

From Mitchell Platts, Madrid



Fernandez: revival

The twelve golfing celebrities gathered together for the Johnny Walker Trophy provided a tasty appetizer for the Madrileños who are expected to invade the La Moraleja course at the weekend by gathering 44 birdies and three eagles between them in the first round here yesterday. They also showed themselves to be human. Greg Norman, reunited with the clubs which were lost in transit from New York, took ten at one hole. Nick Faldo, who overslept and arrived for his tee-off time with only seconds to spare, four putted once for a seven.

In the end the brightest stars, including Severiano Ballesteros and Bill Rogers, two former open champions, were outshone by the Argentine Vicente Fernandez. He collected seven of those birdies and one of the eagles with a second shot of 135 yards at the last which covered the flag the entire way and never looked anything but in the hole. That stroke gave Fernandez a 65 and a two stroke advantage over Ballesteros, Rogers, Bernard Langer and Manuel Pinero.

This year has seen a revival in Fernandez's fortunes. It is four years since he won on the European tour or finished among the leading 20 money winners. Once again he failed to win but he was runner-up once and third on two occasions and with £33,964 he came 18th in the list. He traces his improvement to spending time at the start of the season working with a professional with whose help he first set out in the world of golf. "I was using my irons too much," explained Fernandez. "Now my swing is one piece again."

Fernandez won the Brazilian Open last Sunday, but he has chosen to miss the Argentinian Open, which he won three times, to compete for the £12,000 first prize here. He carries a heavy burden in setting the pace as Ballesteros is clearly back near his best after a two week break. The US Masters champion had six birdies in his first 12 holes and he was bitterly disappointed at failing to improve his situation over the next. In fact he dropped a shot at the short 17th when he missed the green.

Ten single putts, five of them for birdies, which must have made compulsive viewing for everyone walking with the match except his playing partner Faldo. His four putts at the seventh, where his concentration was hindered by a camera click, represented an unlikely happening from one of the smoothest blades in the business. Unlike Rogers, he struggled to read the true pace of the marvellous greens.

Norman never looked like he would find the green at the 532 yards 12th. He had never seen the course but, after a good drive, inquired from his caddie the distance to the pin. "I was told 240 yards and, downwind, that seemed like a five iron to me," said Norman. His first shot carried the green by 30 yards – out of bounds. So did his second. He changed down to a six iron. That, too, went out of bounds. Finally, with a seven iron, he was on the green in eight and down in ten. But what is so refreshing in Norman's character is that, winning or losing, he can still chuckle about the game.

LEADING SCORES: First round: (GB unless stated): 65, Fernandez (Arg); 67, S Ballesteros (Sp), B Rogers (US), B Langer (WG), M Pinero (Sp), S Torrance; 71, N Faldo, J Rivero (Sp); 72, S Lyle; 73, P Jacobsen, (US); 74, G Norman (Aus); 75, J Garaialde (Fr).

BOXING

Wallace keeps fingers crossed

By Bryan Stiles

Keith Wallace is hoping it will be a case of third time lucky as he prepares yet again to capture the European flyweight title. Twice this year he has had to pull out of a meeting with Antoine Montero, the current titleholder. He is determined to keep his next appointment with the Spanish-born champion at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London, on December 7.

Wallace was due to meet Montero in June for the European championship Charlie Magri vacated to concentrate on the world title. Wallace had to pull out then because he needed an operation on a knee cartilage. Montero met a substitute Mariano Garcia, whom he stopped in the ninth round to capture the title.

Montero successfully defended the championship since then and agreed to meet Wallace on November 2, but the Merseyside-born boxer again had to withdraw, this time because his father died.

Wallace must have felt his European aspirations were jinxed. After all was not this to be the thirteenth bout of his professional career?

Frank Warren, his manager/promoter, stumped up a record £24,000 fee for the flyweight champion to put his title on the line.

"I am investing a lot of money in Wallace's career," Warren said. "We are looking to meet the Argentinian Santos Laciar for his World Boxing Association title next year."

Warren made it clear that both the Montero and Laciar bouts were being heavily finance out of television money and was hoping his current dispute with the Boxing Board of Control over the number of shows promoters can have screened, would be amicably resolved.

He has taken out a High court writ declaring the board's restriction is an unreasonable and unlawful restraint of trade. The board have sent him a letter in reply but it had not arrived yesterday.

The board are also involved in a claim that rival London promoter Mike Barrett and not Warren has the regrets to the services of Liverpool boxer Noel Quarless, who ended John L Gardner's comeback on Warren's last promotion.

Quarless is listed to appear on the same bill as the Wallace-Montero bout and Barrett wants to use him at Wembley Arena on November 22. The board will decide at their meeting next week who wins.



Wallace: good backing

S African is referee

Las Vegas (Reuter)–Stanley Christodoulou, of South Africa, was due to referee the world middleweight title bout between Marvin Hagler, the champion and Roberto Duran early this morning.

Christodoulou, one of the world's best ring officials, had earlier been ruled out after writing to the Nevada Athletic Commission on the letterhead of the South African Boxing Commission, of which he is an official.

Bob Arum, the promoter, had said: "There was no way Nevada would accept a South African government official." Guy Jutras, of Canada was then named the referee, but Art Lurie chairman of Nevada Athletic Commission, said the commission had rejected Jutras after watching a tape of the world Boxing Association featherweight title bout between Juan Laporte and Eusebio Pedroza in January.

Pedroza was awarded the decision, later overturned by the New Jersey State Athletic Commission on the ground that Pedroza had persistently fouled Laporte without being penalized by Jutras.

RACING: MIXED DAY FOR DICKINSON

Lettoch's final spurt clinches battle of potential champions

By Michael Seely

The present thrilled and the future beckoned on an action-packed afternoon at Stratford yesterday. Both Lettoch and Forgive N' Forget are now on target for the season's big novice chases after a dramatic duel in the Oslo Trophy. The Embassy Premier Chase final at Ascot in January is now the long-term objective for Lettoch. And Jimmy Fitzgerald is looking forward to repeating Canny Danny's Sun Alliance Chase triumph with Forgive N' Forget.

Both horses were given time to adjust to their new job as Ballycarn was allowed to estabish a long lead. Lettoch jumped to the front at the third fence from home and turned into the straight with Forgive N' Forget breathing down his neck. Mark Dwyer sent Forgive N' Forget into the lead at the last jump but, showing all the courage that won him eight hurdle races last season, Lettoch rallied to win by a neck.

Graham Bradley, who won the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Bregawn last March, was delighted with the 2-1 on favourite's performance. "He's an absolute natural. He can put himself right with no bother at all." Michael Dickinson was not at Stratford but his mother, Monica, said: "Lettoch's a grand little horse. We've now got to find a suitable Embassy qualifier for him."

If Mrs Dickinson was pleased with Lettoch, Fitzgerald was even more thrilled with Forgive N' Forget, the horse who sent half Cheltenham home happy after his impressive victory under 11st 6lb in the Coral Golden Hurdle final last March. "I'd have been happy if he'd finished in the first four, first time out on a sharp track like this. The further they go and the heavier the ground the better it is for Forgive N' Forget."

Making long term forecasts is a tricky occupation in the hazardous winter game but if all goes well in the meantime Forgive N' Forget is a future Gold Cup prospect. Fitzgerald, being a wise man, was making no predictions. "I think I'll go and have a large drink to steady my nerves. The first time they run over fences is always the worst," he said.

Bradley: delighted

Stratford deserve all the congratulations that are going for having staged a magnificent afternoon's sport. As well as Fitzgerald and Mrs Dickinson, Les Kennard was quick to pay tribute to John Ford, the clerk of the course, and his head groundsman Reg Somas. After Kennard had won the Warrnambool Trophy with Cold Winters for Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin, the Taunton trainer said: "They do a marvellous job here and the ground is always in perfect condition."

Kennard was equally enthusiastic about Cold Winters, the 10-length conqueror of Walnut Wonder. "I may be sticking my neck out but I think he'll make a Gold Cup horse one day. He loves making the running and taking charge of the proceedings." Sam Morshead, the winning jockey, confirmed this afterwards. "I asked Cold Winters for a long one at the last open ditch and I certainly got it." Cold Winters chipped a bone in his fetlock in a fall at Cheltenham last October. "The Sheikh has been very patient. He has given me all the time I wanted with the horse," Kennard said.

Jenny Pitman was another to share the general optimism on a glorious sunny afternoon. After winning the Archie Scott Memorial Gold Cup with Fame the Spur, she said "This one's got Grand National written all over him. He's got the right make and shape. He'll probably have his first race over fences in the new year".

Mrs Pitman said that last season's Grand National winner Corbiere is in fine shape. "He's just about as fat as me at present. But he'll soon get that off him. We'll give Corbiere a couple of runs before he tries to win the Welsh National for the second time. Then it's all systems go for the big one again".

Punters started the afternoon well when Graham McCourt rode Townley Stone to an easy win in the first division of the Southern Cross Novices Hurdle. Bred by his trainer John Webber, Townley Stone was backed from 2-1 to 5-4. "This is the best horse we've ever bred", he said. "His grand dam Honey Isle was pretty useful. She must have been as she managed to win three hurdle races despite having me on her back".

The other gamble of the race was Artist's Design, a "springer" from 10-1 to 3-1. After the half sister to Gaye Brief, Gaye Chance and six other winners had finished unplaced, her trainer, Mercy Rimell, said: "I am sending both Gaye Brief and Migrator up to Newcastle tomorrow. If the going is reasonable they will both run in the Fighting Fifth Hurdle".

Aragon best of English raiders

By Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent

Fine weather since mid-September means that this afternoon's one-mile Prix Perth at Saint-Cloud will be run on watered but nevertheless fast ground. Five English-trained horses will contest the group three event for which my selection is Aragon, trained by John Dunlop and ridden by Lester Piggot. He could be followed home by Alzao and the filly Ask Lorna.

In the group one Prix de la Foret at Longchamp at the end of last month, Aragon put up an excellent effort to finish third to Ma Biche and Pampabird. Considering the colt had been off the course since June with a serous blood disorder, the performance was even more creditable.

Francois Boutin has always held Alzao in high esteem and the colt did not have too happy a race when eighth to Cormorant Wood in the Dubai Champion Stakes. He had previously run second to Bylly The Kid in La Coupe at Maison-Laffitte. Ask Lorna has won three times this season and did not have too clear a run when fifth behind Royal Heroine in the Prix de le'Opera on Arc day.

The other English runners are last year's winner Commodore Blake (Walter Swinburn), Favoloso (Bruce Raymond), Gouverno (Greville Starkey) and Rare Roberta (Richard Quinn). Best of the remaining French runners is the much-improved Terson and Alexandrie, who ran disappointingly in the Epsom Oaks but had earlier won the Prix Cleopatre at Saint-Cloud in May.

PRIX PERTH (Group III: 3-y-o: £14,839: 1m) (15 runners)

000	Prospero 6-9-1	C Ramonet
030	African Joy 4-9-1	A Lequeux
110	Premier Mister 3-8-13	G Rivases
411	Terson 4-8-13	G Dubroeucq
233	Aragon 3-8-13	L Piggott
240	Commodore Blake 6-8-13	W R Swinburn
003	Water Melon 5-8-11	J-C Desaint
420	Alzao 3-8-11	C Asmussen
300	Favoloso 4-8-11	B Raymond
042	Gouverno 4-8-11	G Starkey
200	Alexandrie 3-8-10	F Head
010	Golden Champ 3-8-9	Y Saint-Martin
010	Prodigious 4-8-8	H Semeni
010	Ask Lorna 3-8-8	M Philipperon
024	Rare Roberta 3-8-8	T Quinn

2 Aragon, 4 Commodore Blake, 11-2 Alzao, 6 African Joy.

A $1m worry for insurers

All Along's participation in tomorrow's Washington D.C. International at Laurel Park owes much to a novel idea by Laurel reacecourse. If she wins, her owner, Daniel Wildenstein, will not only collect the $250,000 (£168,000) prize money but also a bonus of $1m for win the Rothmans International, the Turf Classic and the Washington International (Christopher Goulding writes).

As All Along has won the two earlier races with effortless ease, it is likely that she can collect again. This will make Lloyds insurance company a good dea poorer, as the Laurel Park authorities have taken out a policy with them to protect against the $1m payout.

AMERICA'S CUP

The Twelve Metre story of a tense summer event

Whether Peter deSavary decides to contend again for the America's Cup in Perth in 1987 much will depend on the outcome of what promises to be a stormy meeting this Sunday in London of the International Twelve Metre Association, when most owners and designers, not to say their lawyers, will be present.

The triumph of Australia II in Newport may be irreversible, but some of the American yachting fraternity, it seems, remain in a state of indignation. Not only is deSavary reluctant to commit himself on the other side of the globe, as opposed to a Concorde hop, without sponsorship from British industry, but he wants to know what the ground rules *will* be, especially in the presence of five or more American syndicates in the Challengers series.

The complexity of last summer's remarkable event, without parallel it could be said in the history of any sport, is partially captured by Tony Fairchild's book *The America's Cup Challenge: There is No Second*. To arrive on the bookstalls within seven weeks of Dennis Conner's sensational defeat is itself an achievement, though not without its unavoidable limitations.

It is significant that Fairchild, who worked daily against the trans-Atlantic time difference without break for his newspaper for months and must be owned a year off, has devoted 44 pages of his book to the New York Yacht Club's prolonged attempt to have Australia II disqualified by any means possible, and only 22 pages to the challenge round. As he observes, it was being said by neutral street wise Americans that the shortest book on earth was the NYYC'S book of ethics.

DeSavary does not want to enter again on behalf of Royal Burnham and then withdraw, so he needs to know who will be the Challenger of Record – the fair play factor – and whether all American boats will be in the challengers elimination series, or must produce one boat from a sub-series.

On Sunday there will be syndicates for 1987 from San Diego (Conner's club), New Bedford and Waikiki, plus Costas Smeralda (Italy). Japan, Sweden and West Germany are expected to join later, plus the NYYC and a syndicate behind Gary Jobson, tactician on Defender in the 1983 defence trials.

Among those who will be arguing about the rules is James Michael, whose involvement for NYYC is related in Fairchild's story and whose conviction that Australia II slipped through deficiencies in the International Yacht Racing Union rules will be central to discussions on "confidentiality" and "peculiarity".

The irony of Ben Lexcen's design inspiration which ended 132 years of domination is that had NYYC been more alert they could legally have witnessed Australia II's keel shape at the time of original measurement, following which it was permanently shrouded.

Additionallly, had the NYYC not been so devious, as Fairchild points out, in questioning Lexcen's design, legality and nationality only after they had tried unsuccessfully to buy the idea from the Netherlands, they could more decently have taken issue earlier on whether Victory' 83's certificate for "winglets", obtained in 1982, covered the rating of Lexcen's much larger "wings".

It is because of the scope still to debate the point – was Australia II fairly rated? – that Philip Tolhurst, a solicitor who advised the Victory campaign, has drawn up on behalf of the Twelve Metres Association the changes in rules which they will recommend to the keel boat committee next Wednesday – which must then be rubber stamped by the IYRU General Committee. Paramount among the changes, referring to draught, beam, deck, mast, etcetera, is that to Rule 27, stipulating that all "peculiarities" to measurement shall be referred to the IYRU, rather than national associations.

Desavory's character emerges



de Savary: 'Substantial charm'

strongly in Fairchild's book – a man of substantial charm and prodigious energy who remained convinced over the three-year period that he could rely on his intitive judgment rather than the establishment of experienced middle management with firm areas of responsibility. Without a doubt his intuition was not always right.

Fairchild refers to the ill feeling in the squad which reached a peak in the early summer of '83, but inevitably the way his book was necessarily constructed, sending part-material to the publisher as events went by, prohibitied him from making judgments in case subsequent events altered complexions.

Thus there is no real analysis of relationships between deSavary and his middle men, such as Jim Alabaster, Charles Spedding and Peter Bateman and of these four with the various crews. Nor is there anything on the crucial winter training period in Nassau when Victory '83 was being built at home and Lionheart and Australia I were being match raced by rival pairs of afterguard in which Cudmore and Crebbin outsailed Smith and Pattisson, only to be ultimately descarded.

Why was no log of the winter races ever kept? Why was Victory '83 so long delayed? Was Ed Dubois 'so original Victory really the better boat when modified; was the "Unbeatable", showing signs of strain, really the sounder defender's choice than John Kolius? These questions are left in the air.

Among many in Newport, Fairchild was one of those who was adamant Conner would win, never mind Australia II's hull speed, and especially when he led 3-1: a widespread belief which resulted in the publishers, Macmillan, having hurridely to pulp thousands of covers with Liberty on the front. *Of the fatal* seventh and final race, it is briefly said that Conner's down wind course from the fourth mark when heading by a minute was a "legitimate raceing move".

Up against the clock, Fairchild has produced a commendable early edition of a sensational story, but he may want to do some re-writing if he gets the reprint he deserves for his diligent and fascinating effort.

David Miller

Odds-on chances both beaten

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

While Lettoch was fulfilling expectations at Stratford, things were mot going according to plan for his trainer, Michael Dickinson, at Wincanton. When all is said and done, that should be a source of encouragement for his rivals, who have begun to take fright at the mention of his name.

W Six Times and Ashley House, his two runners at the Somerset course, both started odds-on and both were beaten – W Six Times fair and square by Half Free and Lodge's Fortune; Ashley House only just by Easter Carnival. As the Silver Buck Steeplechase came to the boil, a great roar greeted Easter Carnival who is very much a local favourite. Ashley House got too close to the last fence, breasted it and lost his impetus. But for that he might have held on to the narrow lead that he had at the time. As it was he was beaten by a neck.

W Six Times clearly resented being taken on time and time again in the lead by Tichytino. By the time Richard Linley showed his hand on Half Free, W Six Times was already a spent force. Tichytino fell and broke a leg four fences from home.

Not much has gone right for John Thorne recently with the injury to his old favourite Artifice and several other fancied runners falling. So Beau Ranger's impressive victory in the Mendip Hills Novices Steeplechase represented a change of luck. "That was badly needed," Thorne said with a rueful grin. Beau Ranger is a nice horse who jumps well and should go on to better things.

Thorne: change of luck

After a sequence of frustrating near misses, Nick Gaselee was another trainer to enjoy a change of fortune when Haresceugh benefited from the fall of Ensigns Kit at the last flight and won the Remembrance Poppy Handicap Hurdle by six lengths. Haresceugh was bought especially for Patrick MacEwan to ride by David Graham, an American, in gratitude for the many enjoyable days he spect hunting with the Cattistock Hounds, whose master is Patrick's father Michael.

The firm ground has again taken its toll on today's programme at Cheltenham and we must be thankful that there are six runners for the day's main race, the Standard Life Handicap Steeplechase. Fauloon had a good record here when he was hurdling and now looks poised to score over fences.

His stamina should give him the edge over Snowtown Boy who is better over shorter distances.

Rusthall can complete a double for Fulke Walwyn by winning the Southam Conditional Jockeys Hurdle. When he won a similar race here in October he carried the colours of his distinguished trainer. Today he will be sporting the patriotic red-white-and-blue silks of the newly-formed British Thoroughbred Racing and Breeding Public Limited Company and he should be their first winner.

Cheltenham

1.0 DERMONT CHASE (novices: amateurs: £3,121: 3m) (10 runners)

103	022-322	BLACK ROD (A Baxter) N Mitchell 8-11-11	D Sherwood
105		EASTER TIDE (J Eaton) J Eaton 9-11-11	Phipps
107	/PP3PP-	NAVARO (Capt J George) J George 9-11-11	P MacEwan
108	4F2P3U	OATLEY PRIDE (B) (P Hiett) P Pritchard 8-11-11	G Marnagh
109	1100-	PLANETMAN (P Lane) M W Dickinson 6-11-11	D Browne
110	2P2F0-4	PROFITEER (P Waring) R Perkins 7-11-11	D Williams
112	0/30400	ZORO (R Williams) R Williams 8-11-11	Miss T Hyde
113	042P-F4	SEVEN ACRES (Mrs A D'Arcy) Mrs M Babbage 5-11-9	N Babbage
114	F-	OUR AFFAIR (J Halfhead) A Cawley 10-11-6	S Andrews
115	00P/334	RISELLO (Mrs E White-Spunner) J Thorne 7-11-6	Miss Jackie Thorne

Evens Planetman, 3 Black Rod, 5 Oatley Pride, 8 Profiteer, 12 Seven Acres, 14 others.

1.35 LANDSDOWN HURDLE (4-y-o: £2,52: 2m) (2)

206	43-1311	GARFUNKEL (D) (P H Betts Ltd) P Mitchell 11-6	R Hughes
207	00-1131	GRINGO (CD) (D Samuel) N Henderson 11-6	H Davies

4-7 Garfunkel, 11-8 Gringo.

2.10 STANDARD LIFE CHASE (handicap: £3,817: 3m) (6)

302	12401-0	FAULOON (R Kieckhefer) F Walwyn 8-11-7	W Smith
304	/2211F-	SNOWTOWN BOY (C) (Mrs M Kean) J Berry 8-11-1	P Scudamore
305	042-321	ONAPROMISE (T Macdonald) Denys Smith 7-10-11 (5 ex)	J O'Neill
306	0-22P22	RED CLERIC (R Illingworth) M Naughton 9-10-5	N Doughty
308	04210-2	RUPERTINO (D) (Ld Kenyon) E Owen jun 8-10-0	R Strange 4
310	4/PF0-0	FOXBURY (CD) (S Richards) Mrs C Richards 9-10-0	B Powell 7

9-4 Red Cleric, 7-2 Onapromise, 4 Fauloon, 5 Snowtown Boy, 6 Rupertino, 10 Foxbury.

2.45 JOHN SEYFRIED MICKLETON CHASE (handicap: £3,748: 2m) (2)

403	0-24311	SEA MERCHANT (D) (T McDonagh) W A Stephenson 8-11-12 (5 ex)	J O'Neill
405	1009-02	MARSHAL NIGHT (CD) (G Hubbard) J Gifford 8-10-13	R Rowe

8-15 Marshal Night, 5-4 Sea Merchant.

3.20 PHILIP CORNES HURDLE (novices: £1,549: 3m 1f) (8)

504	2020-31	CATCH PHRASE (K Carr) J Gifford 5-11-5	R Rowe
507	033-401	WOOLLY JUMPER (Mrs I Macaulay) F Winter 5-11-5	B De Haan
508	0-1111F	BREAC BAN (Ladbroke Racing Ltd) B Champion 5-11-3	H Davies
511	6	BIG BROWN BEAR (G Barlow) G Barlow 6-11-0	
516	4F0000-	HANDSOM HAZE (Mrs H Mowlem) R Thompson 5-11-0	Mr A Dudgeon 7
518	04F10-4	HOLLOW LAUGH (Exors late Mrs H Banks) M Banks 5-11-0	D Hyde 4
520	00F-232	KEEP A PROMISE (G A Farndon Ltd) J Wilson 5-11-0	
529	2B-F2P4	EIROSA (P Amey) B Stevens 6-10-9	W Smith

7-4 Breac Ban, 7-2 Woolly Jumper, 5 Catch Phrase, 6 Keep A Promise, 8 Eirosa, 10 Hollow Laugh, 16 Big Brown Bear, 25 Handsome Haze.

3.55 SOUTHAM HURDLE (handicap: conditional jockeys: £1,679: 2m) (7)

601	141021-	BROOKS LAW (D) (D Bloomfield) D Bloomfield 8-11-10	L Bloomfield
603	P0-341	RUSTHALL (C) (British Th'bred BLC) F Walwyn 10-11-2	R Chapman
606	P-00000	CANTABILE (D) (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 4-10-3	P Dever
608	0-31400	PRINCELY LAD (Mrs Y Sivter) M Tate 5-10-0	G Charles Jones
609	0011-02	BURNBECK (D) (W Price) W Price 4-10-0	N Coleman
610	PP-00F0	PETER ANTHONY (D) (R Hickman) R Hickman 5-10-0	W Hayes
611	300300-	INDADO (D) (R Williams) R Williams 5-10-0	C Evans

5-4 Rusthall, 4 Princely Lad, 6 Burnbeck, 8 Brooks Law, 10 Indado, 16 Peter Anthony, 20 Cantabile.

Newcastle selections

By Michael Seely

1.15 Maladhu. 1.45 Hydrangea. 2.15 A Kinsman. 2.45 Repington. 3.15 Tudor Folly. 3.45 Another Thrill.

Cheltenham selections

By Michael Phillips

1.0 Planetman. 1.35 Garfunkel. 2.10 Fauloon. 2.45 Sea Merchant. 3.20 Breac Ban. 3.55 Rusthall.

Newcastle

1.15 FELTON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £773: 2m 120yd) (9 runners)

1	040-101	STRAIGHT DOWN (S Green) N Crump 8-12-0	C Hawkins
5	302-031	THORBELL ARCH (C,D) (R Gray) R Gray 4-11-3	S Charlton
9		PAUSE FOR THOUGHT (D Hurst) Denys Smith 6-11-0	G Bradley
12	0000-43	SCOTTISH AIR (T Justice) W A Stephenson 8-11-0	K Jones 4
13	u24/	SOMEL (D Hodgson) J Wilson 5-11-0	B Storey 4
19		MALADHU (Mrs A Robson) J FitzGerald 4-10-10	M Dwyer
20	4p	SOUTHERN DANCER (Ewart Eng Ltd) J Parkes 4-10-10	K Milner
22		TRICKSHOT (D Hunt) K Stone 4-10-10	A Brown
24	0b300-0	SOUND OF LAUGHTER (Mrs B Burgess) J Blundell 5-10-9	D Dutton

7-4 Thorbell Arch, 11-4 Straight Down, 6 Scottish Air, 8 Pause For Thought, 14 Maladhu.

1.45 BOLAM HURDLE (selling: £675: 2m 120yd) (8)

2	00-4003	SUNSPEED (G Fenwick) J Kettlewell 5-12-0	S Kettlewell 4
5	0/003p2	GOLDEN HOLLY (R Wood) G Harman 5-11-7	D Dutton
7	63-	AMANDA MARY (R Stubbs) R Stubbs 5-11-2	G P Kelly
8	/00-0pp	BUT BEAUTIFUL (Miss R Gray) I Jordon 5-11-2	A Brown
10	p0000-4	MOUNTAINEER (C Booth) J Leigh 4-11-2	J Barlow
13	0-0	BALLYTURN BELLE (Mrs M Brennan) O Brennan 4-10-11	M Brennan
14		HYDRANGEA (B) (W Chapman) D Chapman 4-10-11	C Pimlott
15	300p0-	LA GAVINA (C Bell) C Bell 4-10-11	P Tuck

9-4 Sunspeed, 100-30 Golden Holly, 5 Amanda Mary, 7 Hydrangea, 10 Mountaineer.

2.15 JACK BRITTON CHASE (novices: £2,084: 3m) (10)

1	0410-11	A KINSMAN (Mrs J Brockbank) J Brockbank 7-12-4	T G Dun
2	f2r112	STAND BACK (W Crawford) W Stephenson 8-12-4	K Jones 4
3	2130-1u	GEARYS COLD ROLLED (C,D) (D Pike) Denys Smith 6-11-13	G Bradley
4	f033-f1	TIERENEE (W A Stephenson) W Stephenson 5-11-13	–
12	00141-f	GRANGETOWN (I Clements) C Bell 5-11-8	P Tuck
17	40/020-	MY UNCLE SAM (R Reynolds) J Kettlewell 7-11-8	S Kettlewell 4
19	00/p	PUTLEY GREEN (R Woodhouse) R Woodhouse 8-11-8	L Warr
20	042332	SIR MARCUS (Mrs G Reed) W Reed 7-11-8	Mr T Reed 7
21	4p2f-3u	SUPREME BID (Ld Cadogan) N Crump 6-11-8	C Hawkins
22	0bp-pu0	COMERAGH VIEW (A Bateson) J Blundell 7-11-3	D Dutton

9-4 Kinsman, 5-2 Gearys Cold Rolled, 5 Stand Back, 10 Tierenee, Grangetown.

2.45 PONTELAND HURDLE (handicap: £986: 2m 4f) (9)

8	2/40tp-	CAP TOO (D) (R Beeson) J Blundell 7-11-7	D Dutton
9	11-32	CARPENTER'S WAY (D) (Carpenters Paints Ltd) Denys Smith 5-11-2	G Bradley
12	20140/3	BOARDMANS SPECIAL (D) Maj J Rubin) C Bell 9-11-0	P Tuck
19	00011-0	BONNY GOLD (Mrs C Postlethwaite) Mrs C Postlethwaite 5-10-8	P A Charlton
20	p01-441	REPINGTON (D,B) (J Gilman) N Crump 5-10-7 (8 ex)	C Hawkins
23	0-	CLYDE BANK (J Wilson) J S Wilson 6-10-1	A Stringer
29	00-2401	GLEN WILLY (D) (J Wade) J Wade 5-10-0 (6 ex)	G W Gray
30	0000-00	POHET (R Lewis) B Wilkinson 8-10-0	S Charlton
31	000b4/p	WHIMBREL WADER (D) (Miss R Hall-Davis) Mrs A Cousins 5-10-0	J Hansen 4

5-2 Carpenter's Way, 100-30 Glen Willy, 7-2 Repington, 5 Boardmans Special, 8 Bonny Gold.

3.15 GOSFORTH PARK CHASE (handicap: amateurs: £1,456: 2m 4f) (4)

4	110144-	STARFEN (F Ballard) M H Easterby 7-11-7	DOUBTFUL
5	331-1b3	TUDOR FOLLY (C,D) (J Lisle) W A Stephenson 7-11-4	P Hughes 7
7	0f334-2	MAGIC TIPP (D) (R Beeson) J Blundell 10-10-10	A Fowler
12	1/	ROYAL SUNSET (Lady C Renwick) Lady C Renwick 8-10-7	P Craggs

8-13 Tudor Folly, 7-2 Magic Tipp, 8 Royal Sunset.

3.45 FELTON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £771: 2m 120yd) (14)

1	3023-12	ANOTHER THRILL (A Jarvis) J Parkes 4-11-3	K Milner
7	4	PRIDE OF TULLOW (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-0	E McIntyre
12		SILLEY'S KNIGHT (B) (E Stockdale) D W Chapman 7-11-0	–
13		SULZANO (E S Tolsworthy) J Leigh 5-11-0	P Blackburn 7
15	0pp584-	BLACKFEET (A McInally) J S Wilson 4-10-10	G W Gray
16	23320-	COMPACTOR (A Hudson) R Hobson 4-10-10	D Shaw 4
17	p84	DAVID GOLIATH (D Faulkner) M H Easterby 4-10-10	A Stringer
18	04-	HAVENWOOD (Havenwood Con's) K Stone 4-10-10	A Brown
19	342443	HELSHAW GRANGE (J Knowles) J Blundell 4-10-10	D Dutton
22	00000	RUSHING FLING (C Bell) C Bell 4-10-10	P Tuck
23	0	TYRRHENIAN SEA (S Moore) N Crump 4-10-10	C Hawkins
24	0	VITRIOLIC (R Hunter) R Fisher 4-10-10	Mr M Meagher 7
26	00000-	SCARLET TERROR (R Brewis) R Brewis 6-10-9	C Pimlott
28	0	STRATHLEVEN (Miss H Hamilton) Miss H Hamilton 4-10-5	–

5-2 Another Thrill, 7-2 Pride Of Tullow, 9-2 Tyrrhenian Sea, 8 Helshaw Grange, 10 Blackfeet.

Wincanton results

Going: Good to firm

1.0 NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £603: 2m)

CILERNA JET, b f, by Lear Jet – Cilerna Rock (P Tory) 4-10-5 Mr E Whettam (10-11 fav) 1
Gregara Lad .... P Barton (5-1) 2
Singing Trooper .... C McKitrick (10-1) 2

TOTE: Win: £1.60. Places: £1.40. Gregara Lad £1.90, Singing Trooper £2.10. DF: Cilerna Jet, Gregara Lad £1.90, Cilerna Jet, Singing Trooper £3.40. CSF: Cilerna Jet, Gregara Lad £2.99, Cilerna Jet, Singing Trooper £5.27. P Tory at Wimbourne. 6l, dead heat. Haboob (16-1) 4th. 10 ran.

1.30 MENDIP HILLS CHASE (novices: £1,870: 2m)

BEAU RANGER, ch g, by Chapeau – Sand Martin (White Bros 'Taunton' Ltd) 5-11-5 P Nicholls (6-4 fav) 1
Crowning Moment .... K Mooney (9-1) 2
Spanish God .... M Richards (7-4) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.00. Places: £1.60, £1.70. DF: £7.40. CSF: £13.53. J Thorne at Bridgwater. 8l, 2½l. Sir Lester (12-1) 4th. 7 ran.

2.0 BADGER BEER CHASE (handicap: £3,482: 2m 5f)

HALF-FREE, b g, by Deep Run – Broken Union (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) 7-10-11 R Linley (9-4) 1
Lodge's Fortune .... P Barton (12-1) 2
W Six Times .... R Earnshaw (4-5 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.70. Places: £1.50, £2.30, £1.40. DF: £26.20. CSF: £26.20. F Winter at Lambourn. 4l, 20l. Triska (8-1) 4th. 8 ran.

2.30 REMEMBRANCE POPPY HURDLE £1,701

HARESCEUGH d g by Mantagna-Metola (D Graham) 5-11-4 .... Mr P MacEwan (7-1) 1
Miners Lodge .... R Linley (8-1) 2
Coal Bunker .... Steve Knight (11-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £7.00. Places: £1.80, £1.60, £2.30. DF: £23.40. CSF: £54.30. Tricast £543.86N Gaselee at Lambourn. 6l, 2l. Bold Deception (7-4 fav) Run to Me (16-1) 4th 10 ran.

3.0 SILVER BUCK CHASE (handicap: £2,486; 3m 1f)

EASTER CARNIVAL b m by Pardigras-Halfaz (P Richards) 7-10-2 .. P Richards (2-1) 1
Ashley House .... R Earnshaw (4-7 fav) 2
Keengaddy .... S Smith Eccles (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.00. DF: £1.30. CSF: £3.60. K Bishop at Bridgwater nk, 4l. Winterland (40-1) 4th. 4 ran.

3.30 NOVICE HURDLE (Div II £608: 2m

GYPSEY LEA ch m by Gambling Dept – Cupid Lee (Mrs S Wakely) 5-10-2 P Stone (66-1) 1
Plaza Toro .... S Smith Eccles (15-8) 2
Inca Trial .... S May (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £38.20. Places: £8.50, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £31.10. CSF: £186.30. P Wakely at Blackborough sh. hd. ¾l. Rehoboam (12-1) 4th 9 ran. n r Carlie John.

0 ran.

Placepot: £82.10.

STATE OF GOING: Cheltenham: firm. Newcastle: good to firm. Tomorrow. Windsor: Chase, firm; hurdles, good to firm.

Stratford results

Going: Good

1.15 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (DIV I novices: £590: 2m).

TOWNLEY STONE b g by Legal Tender – (Townley Stone Ltd) 4 10 13.G McCourt (5-4 fav) 1
Churches Green .... M Perrett (20-1) 2
Norfolk Realm .... S Keightley (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.00. Places: £1.50, £4.50, £2.80. DF: £44.60. CSF: £30.42. J Webber at Banbury. 6l, 2l. Kyoto (20-1) 4th. 17 ran.

1.45 OSLO CHASE (novices: 2m 6f)

LETTOCH b g by Laurence O– Coolavane (J Laurie) 6 11 0 0 .... G Bradley (1-2 fav) 1
Forgive N'Forget .... M Dwyer (2-1) 2
Ballycarn .... Susan Wilton (100-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.70. Places: £1.30, £1.30, £11.60. DF: £3.10. CSF: £2.05. M Dickinson at Harewood. nk. 30l. Postdyne (100-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Beni, Members Relish.

2.15 WARRNAMBOOL CHASE (handicap: £1,679: 2m)

Cold Winters b g by Ramdon Winters – Lady Lees – (Sheikh Khamsin) 7 11 10. R Rowe (5-2) 1
Walnut Wonder .... P Scudamore (10-1) 2
Capvista .... P Warner (14-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.50. Places: £1.60, £2.10, £2.30. DF: £24.80. CSF: £25.15. TRICAST: £265.78. C Kennard at Taunton. 10l, ½l. Music City (7-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Outlaw Man

2.45 HAWKES BAY CHASE (handicap: £1,829: 3m 2f)

VENDEVAR br m by Pardigras – Seven Threes (Parker Consultants) 8-10-0 J Burke (5-1) 1
Ebony Bill .... M Perrett (11-2) 2
Buckmaster .... M Williams (16-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.80. Places: £2.30, £1.80, £1.90. DF: £18.90. CSF: £47.70. A Jarvis at Royston. ½l, 20l. Conna Valley (7-2 fav) 4th. 9 ran.

3.15 ARCHIE SCOTT HURDLE (handicap: £2,905: 2m 6f)

FAME THE SPUR b g by Grandola – Countess Charmere (E Marshall) 5-10-0.B de Haan (9-1) 1
Lawnswood Miss .... J J O'Neill (6-1) 2
Areza .... H Davies (7-2 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.70. Places: £2.00, £2.30, £2.00, £9.20. DF: £44.00. CSF: £92.27. Tricast: £282.86. Mrs J Pitman at Lambourn. 4l, 1l. Do Or Die (33-1) 4th. 15 ran. Nr: Rising Falcon.

3.45 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (Div II: novices: £590: 2m)

BROCKLEY BELLE ch f by Track Spare – Just Jolly (C Spares) 4-8-11 J McLaughlin (14-1) 1
Hayaloaze .... P Scudamore (4-1) 2
Lastreo .... A Carroll (4-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £13.10. Places: £2.90, £2.00, £1.40. DF: £55.70. CSF: £57.90. PLACEPOT: £90.40. C Spares at Newmarket. 1½l, 4l. Princess Mona (7-2 fav), Solidor (25-1) 4th. 17 ran.

CYCLING

Top women out of tour

By John Wilcockson

The announcement in Paris earlier this week that there is to be a women's version of the Tour de France in 1984 has not met with all the enthusiasm that the organizers expected.

Felix Levitan, the autocratic Tour director, blithely said: "I know that 1984 is an Olympic year. But I notice that the feminine Tour de France would finish on July 22, exactly one week before the women's Olympic road race in Los Angeles".

What he did not seem to realise is that the well-established eleven-day Coors Classic in Colorado also finishes on July 22. The majority of the contenders for the first ever women's Olympic cycling event are already committed to the American race, including the three medal winners in this year's world championship, Maria Berglund (Sweden), Rebecca Twigg (USA) and Maria Canins (Italy).

Without the Swedes, Americans and Italians, the feminine Tour de France would prove a second rate competition – not the image that M Levitan is seeking.

He plans to have ninety starters, comprising fifteen teams of six.

The Tour organizers envisage their race being run over the final sixty kilometres of most stages of the professional Tour de France, two hours in advance of the main event. The women's race would be spread over the three weeks, with fourteen stages and nine rest days.

CRICKET

Imran out of Test so mantle falls on Qadir

Perth, (Reuter) – Imran Khan, captain of Pakistan, will miss the first five-day Test match against Australia beginning today because of a stress fracture of his left shin. He was advised by his doctor not to play.

Imran's absence will damage Pakistan's hopes of starting the first ever five-test series between the two sides in Ausralia with a win. Zaheer Abbas, the deputy captain, summed up the mood in the Pakistani camp. "It's sad. We will miss him a lot. He's one of the best all-rounders in the world and this will be a great disadvantage to the team."

Imran sustained the injury during the 1982-83 home series against India and played mainly as a batsman for Sussex last season. He has had more than 20 X-rays on the injury since January. He explained he did not have any more yesterday because his doctor considered too many could do him harm.

He said: "I wanted to play, but I'm afraid there is not much I can do about it. The only consolation is that if I have more rest I've got a better chance of participating properly in the rest of the series."

With Imran unable to play, Pakistan will leave the new ball bowling to Tahir Naqqash, Azeem Hafeez, their 20 year-old medium fast bowler, and Mudassar Nazar. Imran said there was no panic and no serious thoughts about calling for Sarfraz Nawaz, their veteran fast medium bowler, to join the tour.

Without Imran, Pakistan will rely heavily on leg spinner Abdul Qadir, the leg spinner, who took 22 wickets against the Australians in the three-test series in Pakistan last year, and Hohammad Nazir, the off spin bowler, who has taken 13 first-class wickets on tour at an average of 22.53 runs.

Itinerary for Australians

Bridgetown, Barbados (Reuter) – The Australian cricket team will play five Test matches, six four-day first class matches and four one-day internationals during their 1984 tour of the Caribbean starting on February 16. The tour will end on May 4.

ITINERARY: Feb 18-21: v Leeward Islands (St Kitts); Feb 24-27: v Guyana; Feb 29: One-day international (Guyana); March 2-7: First Test (Bourda, Guyana); March 9-12: v Trinidad and Tobago; March 14: One-day international (Trinidad); March 24-27: v Barbados; March 30-Apr 4: Third Test (Kensington Oval, Barbados); Apr 7-12: Fourth Test (Recreation Ground, Antigua); Apr 14-17: v Windward Islands (St Lucia); Apr 19: One-day international (St Lucia); Apr 21-24: v Jamaica; Apr 26: One-day International (Jamaica); Apr 28-May 3: Fifth Test (Sabina Park, Jamaica).

IN BRIEF

Roberts is tempted

Rome (AFP) – Kenny Roberts, the former world motorcycling champion, may sign for another season with Japan's Yamaha team. The American announced his retirement at the end of last season, but was tempted to reconsider after being narrowly pipped for a fourth world title by young compatriot Freddie Spencer.

Giacomo Agostini, Yamaha's sports director, said Roberts had had talks with the team, "but has not yet made a decision."

GOLF: Hal Sutton shot a birdie yesterday on the last hole to ensure his team won all four matches on the first day of the $440,000 US-Japan tournament in Kobe, Japan. Sutton, 25, last year's top newcomer and this years's leading money earner, and his partner David Graham won 65-66. In other matches Calvin Peete and Tom Kite won 66-74, Lanny Wadkins and Johhny Miller, 64-69, and Ben Crenshaw and Hale Irwin 64-68.

TENNIS: The West Midlands tennis centre, Telford, will be the venue for the Midland Bank/Lawn Tennis Association National Schools Championship finals on November 14. The event is the climax of a countryside competition involving 2,000 schools

ATHLETICS: The Amateur Athletic Federation have ruled that this week's event in Kuwait is the "Asian Track and Field Meeting of Kuwait", not "The Fifth Asian Athletics Championships".

RUGBY UNION: RENDALL AND REDFERN CHALLENGE TO FACE ALL BLACKS

Smart pulls out of England squad

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Colin Smart, capped 17 times at loose head prop, withdrew from England's training squad at Stourbridge last night and, by inference, from contention for the England side to play New Zealand on November 19. He started the season late because of suspension and damaged an Achilles tendon while training: that same injury has not yet cleared up. Smart, aged 33, said yesterday: "I have had my eye on the match against the All Blacks since the season started and perhaps I was rushing things too much."

He has played once for Newport's second team this season but has no possibility of achieving match fitness in time to make a second appearance against New Zealand - his first was in 1979.

His deputy on recent tours has been Rendall, of Wasps, at 29 a thoroughly experienced player, who went with England to Argentina in 1981 and North America in 1982. He has yet to be capped but he played against Canada for England last month. He may be challenged by Stuart Redfern, of Leicester, an addition to the senior squad last month.

Redfern, at 15st 11lb., has not the poundage, nor the experience of Rendall nor of White, the 34-year-old Gosforth prop who was a member of the training squad at Stourbridge. But the Leicester player showed notable mobility for the Midland division in their win on Tuesday against the All Blacks, as well as holding his own in the set scrums against Davie, the New Zealand tight head prop, who was subsequently overlooked for the international against Scotland tomorrow.

Both the Scottish and the New Zealand squads trained yesterday in preparation for tomorrow's match at Murrayfield, the Scots at the National Ground and the All Blacks at Heriot Watt University. At much the same time the Welsh squad left Cardiff for Bucharest, where they will play Romania for the first time tomorrow morning.

Smart's club, Newport, will be the first visitors to a reseeded Roehampton tomorrow when Rosslyn Park, who have lived a nomadic existence for the first two months of the season, return home to their refurbished ground. The demands of Surrey mean that Park will be unable to put out their strongest side, though a similar depletion did not stop them from beating Newport at Rodney Parade last year. They include for the first time at lock Edwards, a former colt.

This weekend will be the fourth in the London senior clubs under-21 competition in its inaugural season. Richmond are current leaders of the table, sponsored by Guinness, having won both their games and tomorrow they play London Irish, who have had so much to do with the organising of the competition.

Attendances at matches so far have been encouraging and it is hoped that all the London club senior sides will benefit directly within a couple of years from the competitive experience the under-21 games offer their promising players.

Two clubs who would expect to do well in the table, London Welsh and Wasps, have yet to play a game, the Wasps having been forced to postpone their opening match against Harlequins last weekend.

Room with a view

Anyone following the example of Erika Roe and "streaking" at a major match at Twickenham is in for a cold and uncomfortable time.

The organizers of the Middlesex Sevens warned yesterday that anyone encroaching onto the playing area to "streak" will be taken "as they are, by special stewards to a room under the south stand.

"They will be detained therein until the end of the day when they will be taken to the local police station and charged with offensive behaviour. This will apply at all major matches at Twickenham".

Crucial chance for Romania

By Gerald Davies

The Welsh Rugby Union have put in an order with the snack bar across the road from the Arms Park for several dozen loafs of bread to take with them to Bucharest this weekend. "Andno doubt," said ›y pal, aware to the divine purpose some Welsh committee men feel for their task, "they will want to take some fishes with them as well".

The Welsh Rugby Union have always accepted their role as partly that of missionary and to be able to spread the gospel, as it were, to the emerging countries. But the consignment of loaves on this occasion at least is meant to supplement the defieciency the deficiency their own players are expected to find in the Romanian diet.

Ever since 1962, when Canada came on tour, Wales have always encouraged visits from countries outside international board membership. Unlike the other three United Kingdom countries where rugby does not held the public interest in the same way, such tours are guaranteed to be financial suyccess in Wales so that costs for the tour can easily be recovered.

It was a risk, albeit a calculated one, to invite Fiji and Tonga, a little later, and Japan in 1973. They were all popular as well as financial successes. The tour recently finished by Japan, for example, will probably make a profit close to six figures.

The Romanians, on the other hand, were late arrivals and came in 1971 as the first national side from Eastern Europe to visit Britain. "And", says Ray Williams, the Welsh Rugby Union secretary, "when guests have visited your house they in turn are very eager to invite you back to theirs. And the Romanians have been asking for some time for Wales to play in their country".

There is another compelling reason. That first Welsh match ended with only one point separating the two sides, at 13-12, in the home side's favour. A dropped goal by Gareth Davies decided the outcome late in the game. The Romanians won their four other matches. There has been an obligation therefore for Wales to be put to the test against Romania at the August 23 Stadium in Bucharest.

Romania have been playing France on a regular basis for the last 20 years and the results were invariably close, just as their first match with New Zealand two years ago was a hard-fought game with the All Blacks coming out winners by 14-6.

Last season Romania recorded their first victory by 13-9 against a full French XV. More often than not their opposition are the more modest ones of Europe. If they have accumulated a list of six successive victories, beginning with the one against France, they have done so against opposition such as Morocco, the Soviet Union, Italy, West Germany and Poland.

Only England, of the countries in the five nations championship, have yet to play Romania in a full international. Their turn will come next year. The result of these matches indicate that Romania may well seek to join the championship. But Ray Williams is not so certain.

Ray Williams: concerned about implications

Mr Williams said: "There's a lot of loose talk at present on the matter. People talk glibly of a six-nations tournament. They talk in this way without appreciating the full implications. By Romania's inclusion the championship would be extended by another five matches. Bearing in mind that it is still an amateur game, can players continue to ask their employers for more time off?

"Would the clubs, for instance, allow yet more weekends when their own best players are not available. And more crucially, with the screening of these matches on television, could the clubs face continual reduction in their gate takings. Furthermore, if fixtures are rearranged do those players want to play on other evenings during the week? All these things need to be considered before you can contemplate extending the championship.

"For the time being, arrangements have been made that Romania shall have annual competition against the teams in the five-nations championship. As well as playing France annually, from now on each of the four home countries will play on rota against them alternating on a home and away basis. So that for instance Wales go to Bucharest this season, Romania will come to Twickenham to play England next year and so on".

Morgan expelled

Mike Morgan, the former Newport player, has been told by Ebbw Vale that he is no longer a member of the club "for disciplinary reasons". The full back, aged 21, joined Vale at the start of the season and set a club record for the fastest century of points, reaching the target in ten games.

Morgan admits to an argument last Saturday with the chairman of selectors, *Phil Gardner, after the* defeat at Cheltenham. Deri Best played at full back against Swansea on Wednesday and has been selected for Saturday's match at Cardiff.

Coach is gracious in victory

Schools Rugby by Michael Stevenson

Few winners are as magnanimous as the Millfield coach David Rosser was after his side's 13-10 victory over Sherborne. The keenly anticipated encounter between two fine sides had come up to expectations but Rosser shared the general view that it was a pity either side had to lose.

"Even though Sherborne were without both their first choice props, their pack played magnificently," he said. "They certainly could have won in the final minutes. We would have been very happy with a draw."

David Scott, the Sherbourne coach, was equally complimentary. "Millfield had a slight but definite edge in pace and are superbly organized. I think they are an excellent side." Mutual respect between Rosser and Scott may partly stem from the fact that both taught at Dulwich and, before moving to Millfield, Rosser also taught at Sherborne.

Millfield earned a commanding interval lead through tries from Fleming and Major and a penalty and conversion by Hill. In the second half they held on grimly as Sherborne stormed back through a try by Cranton and two penalties by Ewan.

Bedford's visit to Stowe did not result in comparable entertainment. Stowe won a dour match 9-7 by three penalties from Elmitt to a splendid late try by Mitchell and a penalty by Nutt but Bedford's frustration lasted until injury time when a conversion attempt rebounded off the posts

Further north, rejoicings in Cumbria are muted, because St Bees have suffered defeats at the hands of Sedbergh and Durham; but they have won all their seven other matches, a remarkable record for a school with only 180 boys over 12.

GYMNASTICS

Rhythm but no time for future British team

By Peter Aykroyd

Britain has stepped down from the key competition at the modern rhythmic gymnastics world championships which begin in Strasbourg today. However, three Britons – Jacqueline Leavy, Lorraine Priest and Julie Ramsden – will participate in the individual events.

The decision not to enter the 20 nations contest for groups of six women arose from a change of trainin policy last summer. It was decided by the British Amateur Gymnastics Association to make national team training the resonsibility of three leading clubs so that members could train together more frequently and thus achieve higher standards the sooner. Similar schemes have been adopted with success by other countries who are then represented internationally by virtually their best club team.

Unfortunately, time has been too short to enable the British clubs, Leeds Athletic Institute, Marsden Coventry and Northampton, to reach the levels of performance demanded by world championships.

The leading exponents at Strasbourg will be from countries of the eastern block, in particular Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

Modern rhythmic gymnastics is a graceful sport performed to music by women who combine gymnastic and balletic movement with artistic handling of hand apparatus such as clubs, ribbons, balls and hoops. It makes its Olympic debut at Los Angeles next July.

Perfection is too easy

Strasbourg (AP)–Stung by criticism of erratric and preferential judging at the world gymnastics championship in Budapest, the International Federation of Gymnastics (FIG) have said they will make radical changes in the judging system.

After a week of meetings, FIG announced they had invited the delegations from its 83 members countries to submit suggestions for changes in judging the performance of gymnasts. Modification will be adopted at the federation's meeting in Los Angeles next year.

Frank Edmonds, vice president of FIG and president of the British Federation, said delegates at the meeting were particularly alarmed by the proliferation of the perfect score of 10 in both men's and women's competition, and by charges that the judging of the competition in Budapest was not impartial.

HOCKEY

Flourishing London gives Cambridge the blues

By Joyce Whitehead

Three goals by Kate Roderick put London University on their way to a 4–3 win over Cambridge University on Wednesday.

London, who had beaten Oxford University four days earlier, took the lead through Angela Burnett. Julie Chisholm equalized, but then Miss Roderick restored London's lead. Caroline Hambley and Ellen van Baerk scored for Cambridge in the second half.

The University of London Union has county status in the South territory, which means the undergraduates compete in both university matches and the stronger south counties championship. On Sunday they will play Kent under-23 and next Wednesday they meet Southampton University away.

This is the first weekend of county championship matches. Tomorrow, Lancashire with a new captain, Paula Standish, and a strong team including internationals Linda Carr, Mary Eckersall and Margaret Souyave as well as Ann Cowburn, the England under-21 player, play Durham at Norton.

Cumberland travel to Clifton Park, York, to play Yorkshire, who have already played two matches. Against Durham they won 4-0 but they lost 1-2 to Leicestershire. Their newcomer, Gillian Brown of the Engalnd under-21s is making a useful left wing.

On Sunday, Westmorland are at home to Lancashire Central League at Vickers Ground, Barrow-in-Furness, Manchester League play Cheshire, while Northumberland play Sheffield League.

In the Midlands tomorrow, Worcestershire, unbeaten in two matches, play Staffordshire at Stourport Tennis Club. With a new half back line and sound teamwork, Worcestershire are definitely looking up. Staffordshire, with the stalwart Sue Parsons this season, have acquired Janice Goring from Derbyshire, and with Jane Swinnerton at centre forward they may well trouble Worcestershire. So far, Staffordshire have lost 1-3 to Cheshire and beaten Hampshire 2-0.

Nottinghamshire, who meet Northamptonshire at the Sir Christopher Hatton School in Wellingborough look stronger than last season.

Derbyshire are at home to Warwickshire at Belper, while in the south, Middlesex meet Buckinghamshire at Bisham Abbey.

Sussex, who did well to draw 2-2 with Suffolk, meet Oxfordshire on Saturday at Hove county cricket ground.

Eleanor Tarbox, a very experienced county player, will captain Surrey against Hampshire, at Alexandra Park, Portsmouth tomorrow.

Administrators may change Rugby League laws again

Kickers of dropped goals may get the order of the boot

When Danny Wilson kicked five dropped goals for Swinton against Hunslet on Sunday he surprised himself. For a man who had kicked only three in the previous three seasons with his club, he thereby broke the rugby league record for one point dropped goals in a match.

Little did he know that he was taking part in a glut of dropped goals. No fewer than 29 were kicked last weekend in the 15 John Player Cup ties, enough to set the game's administrators thinking about whether they should amend the laws to discourage the practice.

The dropped goal, generally regarded as one of the finest art forms in the game, has ebbed and flowed in popularity. Twenty one years ago when Neil Fox kicked three for Wakefield Trinity at Wembley, dropping goals was rare. The four tackle rule, introduced in 1966, led to a revival, but that petered out in 1974 when it was devalued to one point in a bid to counterbalance the effects of the six tackle rule.

When this summer the "handover" law was made, many expected a flood of dropped goals and tactical kickings. British players, it was thought, would do anything rather than present the ball to the opposition at the sixth tackle.

That did not happen, in fact, on the first day of the season, when David Hobbs of Featherstone rifled the ball down the touchline until it dribbled into touch by the corner flag, one Yorkshireman was heard to boo. "He's given Castleford head and ball doing that." he complained.

Unlike the Australians, to whom posiion is as important as possession, The British player, realizing the consequences of taking too often on their nervous systems, still guard the ball jealously,

Until last weekend that is, when Tony Kinsey, of Fulham, equalled the post-1974 record with four against Featherstone, so reintrducing his position at the head of the League's rale of drop kickers, in a match that contained no fewer than eight dropped goals.

Was it exceptional? Indeed, closely fought cup matches do tend to produce thier fair share of dropped goals. Yet, some believed that the rush has come 12 weeks later than expected; they say it was an inevitable consequence of the change in the laws this season.

A spokesman for the Rugby League said: "Dropping a goal can be the simplest method of scoring, because of the game's structure.

Indeed, five tackles followed by a drpped kick, albeit worth only a single point, when done too often, could well drive the crods away,

Will the rugby league step in to change the laws yet again, perhaps disallowing goals dropped within the defending sides' 22? Only time will tell.

John Clemison

FENCING

High point for Britain

By a Special Correspondent

Linda Martin, of Britain, took third place in the women's foil at the third European fencing championships in Lisbon on Wednesday night. Miss Martin, 29, beat Delfina Skapska, of Poland, for the bronze medal.

This was Britain's best result in an international fencing event for many years although Miss Martin reached the final of the 1982 world championships in Rome. It augurs well for her chances next year in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

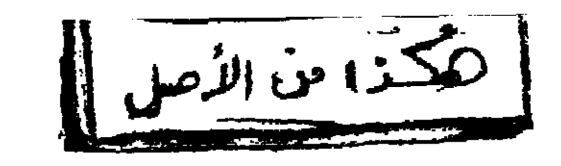
The winner was Cornelia Hanisch, of West Germany, with the Italian number two Carola Cicconetti in second place. Italy's world champion Dorina Vaccoroni did not complete in the championships.

RESULT: European Championships: Women's foil: 1, C Hanisch (WG); 2, C Cicconetti (It); 3, L Martin (GB). Other British placings: 11, F McIntosh; 18, A Brannon.

Handball chief

Joerg Bahrke, a 48 year-old German, has been appointed director-general of the International Handball Federation in Switzerland, in Succession to Friedhelm Peppmeier, who died recently.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS





Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Tough ride for Australian imports

Mr Michael Orr, the head of Colt Cars, importers of Mitsubishi Cars, is not a man to admit defeat readily. For years he has campaigned vigorousy but unsuccessfully against the 11 per cent "voluntary" ceiling on the Japanese share of the British market. Earlier this year he revealed his frustration by announcing that he would import Australian-assembled Mitsubishi cars to avoid the 11 per cent barrier.

It was a good deal when viewed from the Japanese, Australian and Michael Orr standpoint. Mitsubishi's assembly plant in Australia is struggling, in common with all Australian-based car companies, with too much capacity chasing too few sales. The opportunity to add a few thousand more cars to production schedules and, even more importantly, some rare exports to please Australian ministers, was too good to miss.

In May Mr Orr confirmed that he would be importing 3,600 Mitsubishi-Australian cars which are sold "down under" as Sigmas but in Britain were given the newly-created name of Lonsdale. Six months later he has sold only 700 and his men admit that the going has proved a lot tougher than originally predicted.

The problems are twofold. The Lonsdales (Sigmas) were introduced at the peak of the most bitterly-contested price war seen in Britain for 20 years and are dated, run-of-the-mill models. The only thing going for them is the price and even that had to be reduced by up to £200 a model at the beginning of last month to get sales moving.

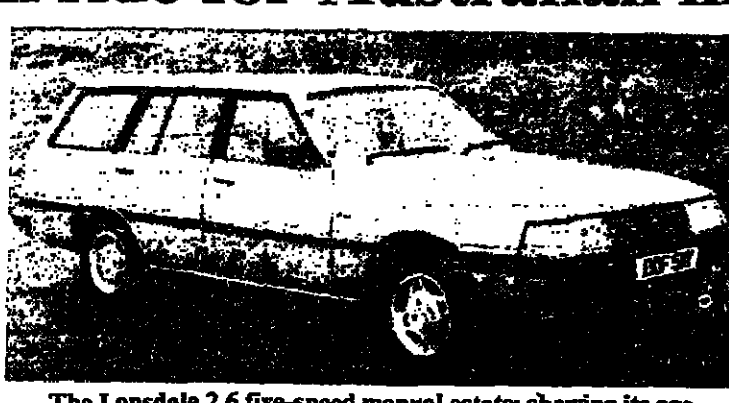
I have just been trying the Lonsdale 2.6 litre, five-speed manual estate because it appeared to fit a promising slot in the market for a robust estate car with plenty of power and a price tag few can match. At £7,700 it has a considerable price advantage over Ford's Sierra 2.3 GL estate (£8,587) and Volvo's 240 Estate (£8,200) and that has only a two-litre engine.

For the self-employed businessman who wants family transport which must also cope with back-breaking loads and hard usage, the Lonsdale Estate is worth considering. It wil do the job but little more. By today's fast-improving standards it is an unsophisticated mover people and their cargoes.

The big 2.6 litre engine pulls strongly but shows both its age, and the fact that it has only four cylinders, by its roughness and vibration in the drive line.

It is also rather thirsty. You would be pushed to 20mpg. There is a lot of movement in the suspension, which has the Lonsdale taking fast bends in a series of gentle lurches. In fairness, however, it should also be said that few people buying it as a cheap load-mover would be likely to push it that hard. On the bonus side the brakes, power steering and five-speed gearbox are well up to their job.





The Lonsdale 2.6 five-speed manual estate: showing its age

But the deciding factor must be the age of its design and how soon it will be replaced. The last Colt Sigma was sold in Britain nearly three years ago when it gave way to the Galant. And the latest whisper is that the Galant itself is soon to be replaced. Against that sort of background, Lonsdale used car prices will not be exactly buoyant.

Vital statistics

Model: Lonsdale 2600 Estate (manual).
Price: £7,700.
Engine: 2,555cc four-cylinder.
Performance: Maximum speed 107mph, 0-60mph, 10.8 seconds.
Official consumption: Urban, 17.1mpg, 56mph, 33.5mpg, 75mph, 25.7mpg.
Length: 14.6ft.
Insurance: Group rating not yet available.

'Cowboy' instructors

All responsible sections of the "teach driving" business seem to be agreed that the Department of Transport is still dragging its feet on the question of driving instructor qualifications. It is true that the department seems to be lending support to the private member's Bill which Mrs Elizabeth Peacock is bringing before the Commons on Dec 6 but, welcome as the amendments are to the Road Traffic Act, 1972, they will not help the learner-driver pick a better instructor. They attempt only to prevent him or her being exploited by unqualified "cowboys".

The Driving Instructors Association (DIA), which claims to represent 5,500 of Britain's 26,500 Department of Transport licensed instructors, says that there are, in addition, an unknown number of so-called teachers, who lack even the department's simple qualification.

Mr Graham Fryer, DIA's chief executive, says: "Many of the cowboys are encouraged by the appallingly lax legislation, which allows virtually anyone to bend the rules and give instruction in his spare time.

"Since the driving test was introduced nearly half a century ago the only positive move by Governments to improve the standard of driving instruction has been the setting-up of the Register of Approved Driving Instructors, a step in the right direction but a wholly inadequate one."

In the absence of positive government action the DIA is taking its own initiative to raise the standard.

With the Associated Examining Board, the highly-respected body which administers O and A level examinations, it is introducing a Diploma of driving Instruction which, it claims, is the first professional qualification of its kind in Britain. Unfortunately it is all on paper. Entrants will take five two-hour papers. Total cost, with entry fees, training manual and study pack is expected to be more than £120.

Automated driver

Exciting navigational aids for drivers seem to have been in the development pipeline for so long that by now we should be able to punch details of our destination into a small onboard computer and leave the rest to a "talking navigator". Alas we are still waiting, mainly because most of the schemes envisaged rely on external services, such as induction loops in road surfaces or radio signals.

Now Mercedes-Benz has come up with a much simpler idea, which is independent of everything but the Earth's magnetic field.

A small computer is linked to a sensor mounted on the rear bumper, where it monitors the magnetic field. The driver simply feeds in information about his starting position and destination, using a four-button calculator-type keyboard. A dashboard display shows eight points of the compass. If you should be turning right it lights up the arrow pointing right and so on.

I know it is only serving the same function as the compasses many have used in cars for years, but there are significant differences. The computer monitors times, speed and distance travelled before choosing which arrow to illuminate and, unlike a compass, it can be seen easily with one eye while keeping the other on the traffic.

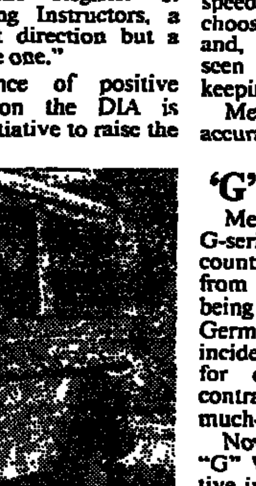
Mercedes claims it is 97 per cent accurate.

'G' Wagen

Mercedes' beautifully-engineered G-series four-wheel drive cross-country vehicle has always suffered from over-pricing, the penalty of being designed to meet stringent German Army requirements, which incidentally proved too expensive for even military tastes: The contract went to Volkswagen's much-cheaper Iltis.

Now, in an attempt to make the "G" Wagen a little more competitive in Britain, it has been decided to import a lower-powered 2.3 litre version selling at £14,195.

That is still £665 more than the basic 3.5 litre Range Rover but will be £1,160 cheaper than the present bottom-of-the-range G car when its price goes up by 4½ per cent next week.



Mercedes' G series cross country car: beautifully engineered

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A copy of the map which accompanied the application, on which the proposed route of the pipeline is delineated, can be inspected during normal office hours in Room 1053 Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, at the office of Messrs John German, The Square, Ramsbury, near Marlborough, Wiltshire and at the offices of the following local authorities:-

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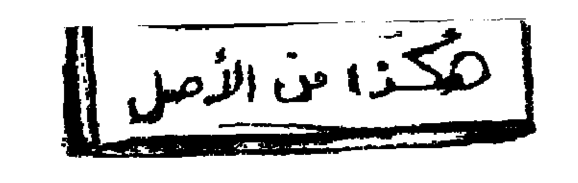
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BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax AM:** News and information service, wide-ranging, but without pictures.

6.30 **Breakfast Time:** with Selina Scott and Mike Smith. Today's special items include pop news (between 7.45 and 8.00) and Audrey Eyton's keep-fit phone-in (between 8.30 and 9.00). Regular items include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 8.30; sport (6.43, 7.18 and 8.18), Tonight's TV (6.45-7.00), Morning Papers (7.18 and 8.18), Horoscope (8.30-8.45).

9.00 **My Music:** early morning treat, with Steve Race putting the questions to Frank Muir and John Amis, and Denis Norden and Ian Wallace (r). Closedown at 9.25.

10.30 **Play School:** Hocus Pocus; 10.55 **Play Ideas:** with Sarah Long: Closedown at 11.05.

12.30 **News After Noon:** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale; 12.57 Financial Report. And subtitled news.

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One:** Twenty years after the assassination of President Kennedy. William Manchester, an authority on the life and death of Kennedy, is in the studio to comment on the drama that stunned the world; 1.45 **Little Misses and the Mister Men:** for the toddlers.

2.00 **Film: Hot Enough for June** (1963) Dirk Bogarde, penniless writer, finds himself being used as a spy in Czechoslovakia. Director: Ralph Thomas.

3.35 **Daffy Duck Double Bill:** cartoons from the United States; 3.55 **Play School:** It's Friday; 4.20 **Bananaman:** with the voice of The Goodies, and Jill Shilling; 4.25 **Jackanory:** Sayo Inabe reads a Japanese folk tale; 4.40 **Take Hart:** with Tony Hart and, as the caretaker, Colin Bennett; 5.00 **Crackerjack:** the guests are The Great Soprendo, The Thompson Twins, Jimmy and The Hoover and the plate-spinner called Bartschelly. Plus Suzanne Dando and David Wilkie.

5.40 **Sixty Minutes:** the line-up is – news at 5.40, regional magazines at 5.53, weather at 6.15 and closing headlines at 6.38 (all timings are approximate).

6.40 **Friday Sportstime:** with Desmond Lynam.

6.55 **Show Business:** Interviews with Twiggy and her co-star in My One and Only musical, Tommy Tune; also, interviews with John Wells, George Michael, of Wham pop group, and Jasper Carrott. And Bette Midler as author (on video).

7.20 **Film: Carry on At Your Convenience** (1971) Carry On comedy which cracks every lavatory joke in the book. All about a strike at a sanitary fittings factory. With Sidney James, Kenneth Williams etc.

8.45 **Points of View:** Barry Took comments on viewers' letters.

9.00 **News:** with John Humphrys.

9.25 **Knots Landing:** At a grief therapy meeting, Karen meets a sympathetic widower; and Diana falls foul of the law.

10.15 **My Kind of Music:** The choice is Anne Lorne Gillies's. Her guest is Alan Price.

10.45 **News headlines.**

10.50 **Film: Sunday Too Far Away** (1974) Tough tale of Australian sheep shearers and their fight against cut-throat competition. Starring Jack Thompson and Phyllis Ophel. Directed by Ken Hannan. (replaces the dispute-hit Man of the Year coverage). Ends at 12.25.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain:** with Nick Owen and John Stapleton. Today's special items include Checkout (6.50); guest Georgie Fame (7.33); Viewers Reply to the Monday Moan (7.45); Fantasy Time, with Frankie Vaughan (8.00); TV Review (8.35); and more Checkout (9.02). Regular items include news at 6.30, then half-hourly until 9.00, then at 9.23; sport at 6.35, 7.35 and 8.30; The morning papers (6.25); and Competition Time (8.25).

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Biology for A-level students; 9.47 the Hodgkins family; 10.09 Frightening things; 10.26 Moulding and manipulating plastics; 10.43 Job satisfaction; 11.05 Crime story, with Nina Bawden; 11.22 Adventure in Venice (2); 11.39 Bill Grundy on the South Downs.

12.00 **We'll Tell You a Story:** with Christopher Lillicrap; 12.10 **Rainbow** (repeated at 4.00); 12.30 **Positive Thinking:** interviews with three people concerned with developing new relationships between doctor and patient.

1.00 **News from ITN;** 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 **About Britain:** The Characters of Cornwall: We meet a Cornish bard, some Rugby fanatics, and a happily separated husband and wife.

2.00 **Private Benjamin:** US Army comedy series starring Lorna Patterson in the role Goldie Hawn filled in the movie cinema film; 2.30 **Falcon Crest:** the continuing story of a California wine-growing family. Starring Jane Wyman; 3.30 **Blockbusters:** General knowledge quiz.

4.00 **Children's ITV: Rainbow** (r); 4.20 **Dangermouse:** episode five of the cartoon serial (r); 4.25 **Sooty:** strong man competition; 4.50 **The Dinosaur Trail:** where did the monsters go?; 5.15 **The Young Doctors.**

5.45 **News;** 6.00 **The Six O'Clock Show:** London news stories that contain more chuckles than groans. Plus star guests.

7.00 **Family Fortunes:** the Max Bygraves quiz show. The Harrons from County Antrim are matched against the Reeves from Wiltshire.

7.30 **The A-Team:** Searching for a little girl's mother, BA uncovers an illegal smuggling operation.

8.30 **A Fine Romance:** There are endless unforeseen complications when Laura and Mike make a "Mr and Mrs" booking at a Worthing hotel.

9.00 **Auf Wiedersehen, Pet:** New comedy series about three Newcastle upon Tyne building workers who are lured to West Germany by the promise of good wages, luxury accommodation and lots of attractive fringe benefits. Tim Healy, Jimmy Nail and Kevin Whately head the cast (see Choice).

10.00 **News from ITN.**

10.30 **The London Programme:** Why football hooliganism has survived in spite of the millions of pounds spent on plans to try to contain it. Chelsea fans are interviewed.

11.00 **World Championship Boxing:** Hagler v Duran for the undisputed World Middleweight title.

12.00 **Continental Movie: Why Not Speak of Love** (1980). Hungarian-made drama about two students whose college days love affair is not to survive long in the outside world. With Györgyi Tarján, and László Gálffy. Directed by Peter Bacso. With English subtitles. Followed by Night Thoughts, from Susan Dowell.



William Ingram: A Solitary Mister (BBC 2, 8.10pm)

CHOICE

● Long ago, we passed the stage where we could seriously expect to find anything on the small screen that owed absolutely nothing to precedent. The most we can hope for is some high-quality re-cycling. **AUF WIEDERSEHEN, PET** (ITV, 9.00) is *Boys from the Black Stuff* with the corners of its lips curving up rather than down, a Geordie accent replacing the Scouse, Germany substituting for Merseyside, and legitimate labouring jobs on foreign soil instead of high-risk, short-term spells on the local Lump. In view of all these uncommon denominators, then, you will be wondering how I can bracket the comedy serial that begins tonight with Alan Bleasdale's marvellous drama sequence. It is because *Auf Wiedersehen, Pet*, scripted by those old hands at the comedy game, Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais (*The Likely Lads*, *Porridge*), deals with a bunch of men who find sharp and gusty fun in a situation – the rough end of the building trade – where humour is not indigenous.

● **THE SOLITARY MISTER** (BBC 2, 8.10pm), the second panel of BBC Wales's triptych painted to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Dylan Thomas's death – the third is the repeated interview with his widow, Caitlin (BBC 2, 11.45) – is a highly imaginative, but not wholly successful, attempt to turn the West Wales village of Laugharne into a template for the poet's restless inspiration. The dead Dylan, reincarnated in the approximately indentical shape of the actor William Ingram, returns to his old familiar haunts (pub, beach, boat house, writing shed) while, al fresco, under the shadow of Laugharne castle, a trio of actors reads from his works after feasting off a barbecued pig. The spirit ought not, I think, have been made flesh. It would have been better merely to let the camera roam and add Dylan's disembodied voice to that of the trio, especially as Herbert Williams has written some post-mortem lines for the poet that have an uncanny ring of authenticity.

● There is a ghostly intrusion, too, in **THE BRIDE** (BBC 2, 7.05pm). Its unexpectedness helps to lift Farrukh Dhondy's story well above the level of last Friday's *Good at Art* . . . . A reminder that tonight sees the final episode of **GOOD BEHAVIOUR** (BBC 2, 9.25pm).

BBC 2

9.08 **Daytime on Two:** Ends at 3.00. The line-up of educational programmes is: 9.08 Science (fluids). 9.35 Maths-in-a-Box (at the seaside). 9.52 Look and Read (Dark Towers). 10.15 Mathscore Two. 10.38 Electricity. 11.00 Wheels and gears. 11.22 Read On!. 11.44 Union Matters. 12.05 The Computer Programme. 12.30 Business Club; 12.55 Speak for Yourself (applying for supplementary benefits).

1.38 **Around Scotland;** 2.01 **The Gang – Where are They Now?;** 2.30 Episode one of J B Priestley's An Inspector Calls.

3.00 **Film: Masquerade:** (1965) Secret service thriller involving an abduction in the Middle East. With Cliff Robertson.

5.35 **News summary:** with subtitles.

5.40 **The Friday Western: Great Day in the Morning** (1956) Decidedly off-beat western, set during the American Civil War, with Robert Stack as the gambler and gunfighter. Strong cast includes Virginia Mayo, Ruth Roman, Raymond Burr and Alex Nicol. Director: Jacques Tourneur.

7.05 **The Bride:** Farrukh Dhondy play, with Phil Daniels as the tough cockney and former skinhead whose infatuation with an Indian girl (Janet Steel) has a ghostly outcome. With Andreas Ramlingum.

7.40 **The Treasures of the Burrell:** BBC Scotland film showing of the riches from the Burrell Collection now on view in the new gallery in Pollok Estate, outside Glasgow. Includes an interview with Barry Gasson, the architect who designed the gallery.

8.10 **A Solitary Mister:** A celebration of Dylan Thomas, filmed in Laugharne, where he lived and where he is buried. William Ingram plays the poet who returns to the town to see how his reputation stands 30 years after his death. (See Choice and also 11.45 pm entry)

9.00 **M*A*S*H:** Why Hawkeye writes a letter to President Truman.

9.25 **Good Behaviour:** Final episode of Hugh Leonard's fine dramatization of Molly Keane's novel. Aroon (Joanna McCallum) has some upsetting news about Richard, but there is some pleasant news in a will. With Hannah Gordon and Michael Denison.

10.25 **Dance International:** Preview of next week's BBC 2 ballet season launching.

10.30 **The Innes Book of Records.** Musical show, first seen in 1981 (r).

11.00 **Newsnight:** bulletins and analysis.

11.45 **Left-Over Wife:** Vincent Kane interviews Dylan Thomas's widow Caitlin in her home in Rome. She once wrote an account of her difficult life with the poet. It was called Leftover Life to Kill (r). Ends at 12.25.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **The Munsters:** Horror spoof with a family touch. Tonight, Grandpa (Al Lewis) tries to turn one of Eddie's unpleasant friends into a rabbit.

5.00 **The Munsters:** Horror spoof with a family touch.

5.30 **The Tube:** Rock show, transmitted live, and co-presented by Jools Holland and Leslie Ash. Featured tonight: The Assembly (making their debut on The Tube) Wham, Mark Miwurdz, Dennis Brown, The Fixx, and The Cult. Plus new videos and rare footage from the archives.

7.00 **Channel Four News.** Followed by weather prospects for the weekend.

7.30 **Right to Reply:** A wholly new format for the programme in which Channel 4 viewers are given the opportunity to say what they think, about the output on this year-old channel.

8.00 **The Amateur Naturalist:** Winter wildlife in the forests of northern Canada, as witnessed by Gerald and Lee Durrell. Returning to the same territory in the spring, they canoe and see a devastating forest blaze.

8.30 **A Week in Politics:** with Peter Jay. On the eve of the Communist Party congress, there is an interview with its party general secretary Gordon McLennan. And how pro-Israeli and pro-Arab sympathisers try to persuade Britain's political parties to support their aims.

9.15 **Rockers Show:** Black music from Britain's pubs and clubs. Tonight's show comes from Cardiff.

10.00 **The Paul Hogan Show:** comedy from the Australian funster with a large, loyal following in Britain.

10.30 **Heart Attack: A Well Being Special Report.** What causes the disease that claims so many lives, and what can be done to prevent it. Filmed in Britain, the United States, and Canada. Featuring the life-saving cardiac rescue teams of the Seattle Fire Department; and showing open-heart surgery at the National Heart Hospital. The film was made in association with the Royal College of General Practitioners. Presented by Pam Armstrong.

11.35 **What the Censor Saw: The Man with the Golden Arm** (1956) The first Hollywood film to deal explicitly with drugs addiction – and therefore a big problem for the censor. Frank Sinatra is the poker dealer and jazz drummer trying to break his dependence on narcotics. Eleanor Parker plays his crippled wife. Also starring Kim Novak. Elmer Bernstein's jazz-based score was nominated for an Oscar, and so was Sinatra. Directed by Otto Preminger. Ends at 1.45 am.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island discs. Shirley MacLaine.†
9.45 Feedback. Your views and comments about BBC radio and tv put to producers and management.
10.00 News; International Assignment. BBC correspondents review a contemporary issue.
10.30 Morning Story: The Young Husband by Leslie Halward. Read by David March.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; The Black and the Grey. A documentary about Herbert Sulzbach, a Jewish interpreter among German PoWs in Comrie Camp, Scotland, 1944. Written by Mike Healey.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer Affairs.
12.27 Top of the Form. Bodmin School versus Welshpool High School.(r) 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Glasgow. Includes Jimmy Mack paying a tribute to the city; and the work of Britain's first disfigurement guidance centre. Plus part 10 of I Start Counting.
3.00 News; Our Man in Havana by Graham Greene (last of three parts). Starring Jack Watling.(r)
4.00 News; Just After Four. Union boss Frank Chappell – as pigeon fancier.
4.10 Enjoying Opera. Last of six programmes looking at the world of opera – On Stage. With Monty Haltrecht.
4.40 Story Time: A Passage to India by E. M. Foster (last of 15 parts). Read by Sam Dastor.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The World of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.†
8.10 The Week in Synod. Report by Rosemary Hartill on this week's General Synod of the Church of England in London.
8.30 Any Questions? from Coventry. With Mgr Bruce Kent, Sir James Eberle, Marghanita Laski and Steve Race.
9.15 Letter from America by Alastair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes a preview of the BBC 1 dramatized biography of Sir John Reith. 9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: Basil by Wilkie Collins (last of 15 parts). The reader is Edward De Souza.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Angus McDermid in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 11.00-12.00 Study on 4: 11.00 Digame. 11.30 The Training Revolution. 12.30-1.10am Schools Night-time Broadcasting: Lifetime – 12.30 Violence and Vandalism. 12.50 Sexual Opportunities.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Holst (Fugal Overture), Sibelius (Tone Poem, Night-ride and Sunrise), Beethoven (Variations for cello and piano on Handel's See the conqu'ring hero comes – Rostropovich and Devetzi (piano). Bach, orch Schoenberg (Prelude and Fugue, St Anne, BWV 552).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. J C Bach (overture, Artaserse), Bottesini (grand duo for violin, double bass and orchestra – with Ricci and Francesco Petracci), Soler (Concerto No 3 for two keyboards – Kenneth Gilbert and Trevor Pinnock). Schumann (overture: Scherzo and Finale).†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Arnold Bax. The Elegaic Trio and the Symphony No 5.†
10.00 Form and Fantasy: Bach trans Busoni (Fantasy and Fugue in A minor), Chopin (Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op 61) and Medtner (Sonata in A minor, Op 30).†
10.40 Ulster orchestra: Borodin's overture Prince Igor (orch Glasunov), the Petite Suite and Symphony No 3 in A minor.†
11.40 Words by Goethe: set to music by Beethoven, Liszt and Busoni. With Glyn Davenport (baritone) and John Alley (piano).†
12.15 Swansea Festival of Music 1983: BBC Welsh SO, with Dmitri Alexeev (piano). Part one. William Mathias (Laudi – the composer – conducting) and Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on theme of Paganini).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
1.20 Swansea Festival: part 2. Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique.†
2.15 Music for Piano and Violin: with Derek Collier (violin) and Daphne Ibbott. Tartini, Smetana, Collier, Robert Russell Bennett (Hexapoda) and Ravel (Tzigane).†
3.00 Haydn and Field: with the New Irish Chamber Orchestra and John O'Connor (piano). Haydn's Symphony No 64, and Field's Piano Concerto No 2.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from Canterbury Cathedral.†; 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another David Hoult selection. Includes works by Telemann and Schubert (Quartet in a minor, D 804).†
6.30 Music for Guitar: Baltazar Benitez plays works by Manuel Ponce and Abel Carlevaro.†
7.00 Scandinavian Piano Music: Barbro Jansson plays Nielsen's Chaconne, Op 32, Larsson's Sonatina No 2, and Gunnnar de Frumerie's Chaconne.†
7.30 Günter Wand conducts the BBC SO: Bruckner's Symphony No 8.†
9.00 Third Opinion: Discussion between Peter Oppenheimer, the economist, Sir Donald Maitland, and others.
9.45 Handel: Concert. Part one. With Gillian Fisher (soprano) and the Raglan Baroque Players. Overture: Tolomeo. Cantata: Armida abbandonata. And Concerto Grosso in a minor, Op 6. No 4.†
10.20 Musical Letters: Readings from the correspondence of Fanny Burney, by Karin Fernald.
10.30 Handel: concert part two. Concerti Grossi in B flat, Op 3 No 2 and in B flat, Op 6 No 7 and Cantata: Alpestre monte.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00). Major bulletins 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30. 5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart.† 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton.† 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn† including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night from the Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham,†including 8.20-8.40 Tony Bamfield. 9.30 The King's Singers.† 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight, including 11.02 Sports Desk (stereo from midnight). 1.00 Night Owls with Dave Gelly.† 2.00-5.00 Allen Dell presents You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30am-8.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MU).
6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Richard Skinner. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Gary Davies. 4.30 Janice Long with Select-a-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show.† VHF RADIOS 1 and 2 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Breakthrough. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The English Air. 8.30 Modern English Poetry. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.30 Emma. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Clinging to the Wreckage. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Fire in the City. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Memorable Scene. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Kings of Jazz. 5.45 The World Today. All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1 Wales: 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales Today. 10.15-10.30 Sport Folio. 10.30-11.20 Week In Week Out. 11.20-11.21 News. 11.21-12.55am Film: Dulcima (1971) (John Mills). Scotland: 12.55-1.00am News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 9.25-9.55 Double Bill. 9.55-10.27 Agenda. 10.27-10.30 News. 10.30 Week In, Week Out. 11.00 The late film: Take the High Ground. Ends at 1.00am. Northern Ireland. 12.57-1.00pm News, 3.53-5.55 News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 11.25-1.05am Film: Dulcima (1971). (John Mills). 1.05 News. England: 5.53pm (Part of Sixty Minutes) Regional items vary. 10.15-10.45 East: Weekend. Midlands: Happy Birthday. (The Rev Chad Varah). North: To Shatter The Sky. North East: Lynda Lee's People. South: The Cellar Show. South West: Peter Pan Does Not Bath. (Eric Putman, owner of the Cornish Times). West: Day Out: A Vale of Three Counties.

S4C Starts: 2.00 pm Ffenestri. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Spice of Life, Mustard. 3.25 Bad Times at The Times. 4.30 Countdown. 4.55 Lowri A'r Capten. 5.10 Gwaed Ar Y Dagrau. 5.30 Malibu World Disco Dancing Championship. 6.25 Good Food Show. 6.55 Gair Yn El Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Sion a Sian. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Pawb a'i Fys. 9.15 Paul Hogan's England. 10.15 Film: Another Time Another Place (Phyllis Logan). 12.00 Our Lives. 12.45 am Gair Yn El Bryd, closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00. Consider yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon club. 1.35 About Britain. 2.05 Old Wives' Tales. 2.10 Film: Breaking Up (Lee Remick). 3.50-4.00 Sportsdesk. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 190.30-11.00 Jyst William. 12.00 Paris by Night. 1.30 Company, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ANGLIA 12.30pm-1.00 Consider yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Casanova's Big Night (Bob Hope). 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby?. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 Darts. 1.00 Case for the Defence (John Hamblin). 1.25am Martin Luther: Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider yourself. 1.20 News. 2.00 Film:Casanova's Big Night (Bob Hope). 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent strokes. 6.00 Calendar and Sport. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 Magnum. 12.30am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 Day Ahead. 12.30 pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 Film: Amsterdam Affair. 3.30-4.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.35 Festival Spot. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 Witness. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.25 am News, closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Checkpoint (Anthony Steel). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today SouthWest. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.34 Boxing. 11.30 Film: Crowhaven Farm. 12.45am Postscript. Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself Katie Boyle. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Checkpoint. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 10.34 Boxing. 11.30 Film: Crowhaven Farm. 12.45am Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00 Film: Sands of the Desert (Charlie Drake). 3.30-4.00 Does the Team Think? 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 Northern Life. 6.20-7.00 Weekend Lift-Off. 10.32 Boxing. 11.30 Film: City of the Dead. 1.00 am Three's Company. closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Constant Husband (Rex Harrison). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Here Here. 10.30-11.00 Ways and Means. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05am At Ease. 12.30 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Amsterdam Affair (Wolfgang Kieling). 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 Night Gallery. 12.25 am News, closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Film: Melody (Jack Wild). 3.30-4.00 Sons And Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 News. 11.35 Film: 1,000 Plane Raid (Christopher George). 1.20am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Rooney (John Gregson). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 So What's Your Problem? 10.30-11.00 Press Call. 12.00 Benson. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.05am-11.20 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Writers on our time.

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Love Thy Neighbour (Jack Smethurst). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Follow That. 10.30-11.00 Lord Home – Reflections. 12.00 News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Film: That's Your Funeral (Bill Fraser). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00-7.00 Weekend. 10.30 Boxing. 11.30 Film: How to Destroy the Reputation of the Greatest Secret Agent (Jacqueline Bisset). 1.20 am Closedown.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Hundreds of would-be Olivers sing for their supper

Hundreds of children flocked to the Aldwych Theatre, London, yesterday to audition for the musical *Oliver!* which opens on December 14 (Mark Rosselli writes).

At stake were the parts of Fagin's gang of street urchins, and Oliver.

When the stage doors opened in the morning, the queue of hopefuls stretched around two sides of the building. Inside, parents were segregated quickly from their offspring.

The director, Mr Geoffrey Ferris, said: "We keep the parents away, as it can inhibit the children, as well as causing us problems.

"What we are looking for varies. Fagin's gang are rumbustious boys, vigorous, with plenty of life. "Oliver must have a glorious voice, and a quality of innocence.

"We do get tears, but girls are usually worse than boys at taking failure. We try to let them down gently."

Most were disappointed before seeing Mr Ferris, knocked out in the qualifying auditions, where batches of 10 boys were made to sing solo and in chorus.

The examiners eliminated quickly awkward shapes (children in Victorian workhouses did not tend to run to fat)

One early qualifier was Neil Cooper, aged 11, from High Wycombe, on his first audition.

His mother, Mrs Shirley Cooper, said: "He dragged me here, he's always trying things out. He's a very determined boy".

Called by the director, Neil was given quick reassurance by a friendly stage vereran aged 12: "It'll be all right, do your best and sing out well".

But for Neil there was no green ticket, the passport to the shortlist and today's dancing auditions

Mrs Cooper took her son home, promising him that they would try again.

Oliver!, which stars Ron Moody as Fagin, will run until January 14.





Chorus line: Boys queuing for the *Oliver!* auditions yesterday. (Photographs: Brian Harris).



Frank Johnson in the Commons

Speaker heckles Mr Shouter

Mr Bernard Weatherill, the new holder of the office of Mr Speaker, yesterday made two unusual interventions in remarks by Mr Dennis Skinner, the long-standing holder of the office of Mr Shouter.

With all the dignity of his ancient office, which goes back to his election as left-wing Labour Member for Bolsover during the troubled reign of Mr Edward Heath, the Shouter, as is his custom, rose yesterday during Prime Minister's questions.

He was immediately heckled by an SDP Member and came to a halt. Under the conventions of the constitution, it is Mr Skinner who heckles an SDP Member and forces *him* to come to a halt.

Mr Skinner had started to demand of the Prime Minister: "When Mr MacGregor, the Prime Minister's hit man in charge of the coal industry . . ." But he stopped. For Mr John Cartwright, the SDP Member for Woolwich, could be heard keeping up a steady commentary consisting of: "Rhubarb-rhubarb, Dennis, rhubarb-rhubarb-rhubarb."

It is not possible for a reporter to be more specific as to content, for only the "Dennis" was audible to the gallery. Heckling is in its infancy in the SDP. Mr Cartwright had not yet learnt to project his words upwards to those of us whose function is to immortalize such interventions.

But he was doing well, for Mr Skinner had stopped. "I think the Hon Member needs my protection", laconically observed the Speaker, the man who is more customarily in the business of protecting people from Mr Skinner.

"When Mr MacGregor spoke in Nottingham yesterday, he said that if the miners refused to ban overtime, then they would withdraw the . . ." Mr Cartwright again rhubarbed for England.

Mr Skinner again stopped. Then he started once more. So did Mr Cartwright. The Tories joined in. Mr Skinner began to develop a somewhat complex argument about the miners' five-day week agreement and marginal tax relief to oil companies.

The Tories: "Boring! Boring!" Mr Cartwright: the same as before. Mr Skinner: more of the same. Mr Cartwright: see above.

During one of Mr Skinner's several halts, the Speaker, perhaps relishing the situation just a little, cried at him: "Come on!"

Speaker heckles Skinner!

Later in replying to a point of order from Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, of the SDP, the Speaker commented: "The Hon. Member has been here many years." "On and off," heckled Mr Skinner, one of whose present campaigns is about alleged SDP–Liberal non-attendence in the chamber.

Whereupon, Mr Cartwright returned to his eatlier theme. But this time some of his words reached us. It was something about Mr Skinner having fallen off his bike. At last one realized what underlay the day's hostilities.

Ever since Parliament returned this autumn, Mr Skinner has been mocking Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, for having taken time off from politics in the summer, it having been reported that Mr Steel was suffering from depression. Mr Cartwright had clearly remembered that, a few years ago, Mr Skinner had to take time off from politics after falling off his bike and onto his head.

There is a straight conflict of evidence here between those who believe that depression is an ailment, just like a blow to the head caused by falling off one's bike, and those pre-Freudians such as Mr Skinner who do not. We badly needed yesterday a medical opinion.

Also to be heard yesterday was one of those glorious accasions when lots of members feel that dignity has been affronted. On a point of order, the Labour Member Mr Dick Douglas, said it was improper for Mr Russell Johnston, the Liberal, to have written in that day's *Times* that the Speaker was not allowing enough Liberal speeches.

Mr Johnston should be disciplined, he suggested. Mr John Evans, another Labour Member, capped that by suggesting that *The Times* should be disciplined.

A spectacular climax was reached with Mr Norman St John Stevas saying that it was deplorable that a member should write a newspaper article criticizing the Speaker because you could only do that by substantive motion of the House. It should certainly not be done Mr St John Stevas added, via "this newspaper, which hasno connexion with the House whatsoevcer." (I resented that.)

Joint force ruled out

Continued from page 1

Commonwealth leaders would want to exacerbate divisions in the Caribbean about the legality of the American and Caribbean invasion of Grenada. The important thing was to try to be effective in terms of Grenada's needs as a Commonwealth member country.

The Commonwealth had a special duty to try to make the world a safer place for small states like Grenada as well as to make them safe for the world.

"When the dust of disquiet over Grenada has settled – indeed perhaps well before then – this issue of smallness must be confronted.

"Twice since Commonwealth heads of government met in Melbourne – in the South Atlantic and now in the Caribbean – smallness has been a factor in a major threat to world order".

Very small states were not just scaled-down versions of larger states, he said.

Telecom engineers bow to court

Continued from page 1

The union members declared their determination to pursue with "renewed vigour" the campaign of industrial action against government privatization plans for British Telecom but there was unofficial acceptance that the agreement to obey the injunction granted by the Court of Appeal on Wednesday would make a dent in the engineers' enthusiasm for the anti-privatization campaign.

The final voting was by a margin of about 3-1 in favour of accepting the recommendation from the union executive that there was *no alternative* to compliance with the injunction granted by Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls. The size of the majority backing the executive surprised some union officials but that support came after delegates heard dire warnings of the consequences of defiance. An initial fine of between £50,000 and £100,000 was likely to be imposed, they were told, followed by fines for each day that the injunction was not obeyed.

The conference was told by Mr Brian Stanley, the union general secretary: "If you vote against the national executive council you will be destroying this union. You have got to decide if we obey it now or in two weeks time when we have been smashed. It is not a question of if we obey, but when we obey."

Union officials were last night saying privately that the decision not to cooperate on youth training schemes was a reaction by delegates to the climbdown forced by the court injuction. In normal times the executive's proposals for jobs training would have been accepted.

The clash between British Telecom engineers and Mercury involves five minutes' work with pliers and a screwdriver.

Leading article, page 13

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester opens a new warehouse conversion on behalf of London and Quadrant Housing Association and Hunt Thomson Associates at Thames Tunnel Mills, Rotherhithe, 8.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, attends the Gardeners' Remembrance Service at St George's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, 11.57.

Prince Michael of Kent opens 1983 Caravan Camping Holiday Show, Earls Court, 11.

Last chance to see

Porcelain and stoneware by Lucie Rie, Peter Dingley Gallery, 8 Chapel Street, Stratford upon Avon; 9.30 to 1.30, 2.30 to 5.0 (ends tomorrow).

Sculpture by Francoise Lewis, Ginnel Gallery, 16 Lloyds Street, Manchester; 9 to 5.30 (ends today).

Drawings by George Stubbsa from his book *The Anatomy of the Horse*, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester; 10 to 5 (ends today).

Glass, porcelain, jewelry, paintings, cartoons and watercolours, Katherine House Gallery, The Parade, Marlborough, Wiltshire; 10 to 5 (ends today).

Paintings by Joseph O'Reilly, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield; 10 to 5 (ends today).

Polite Society – Arthur Devis: portraits of the English country gentleman and his family; Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Market Square, Preston; 10 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Exhibitions in progress

Drawn from Life: Ralph Brown, Edward Piper, William Wilkins and Clare Jarrett, Oriel 31, 31 High Street, Welshpool, Powys; Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (until Nov 24).

"Don't Ask Me, I Can't Draw": Community arts in Yorkshire; Silkweaving and leatherwork by Keith Brown and Mary Godfrey (until Dec 4); and Landscape, a changing view (until Nov 30); Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley; Tues 1 to 5.30, Wed to Sun 10 to 5.30.

Work by the Stoke-on-Trent Embroiderer's Guild, City Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 8 (until Dec 17).

Talks, Lectures

Photography, peace and publishing, by Ed Barber, Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford, 8.

The world of art and antiques, MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling, 7.45.

Music

Concert by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Concert by Hague Philharmonic Orchestra, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Recital by Endymion Ensemble, Wills Memorial Building, Bristol University, Queen's Road, 1.15.

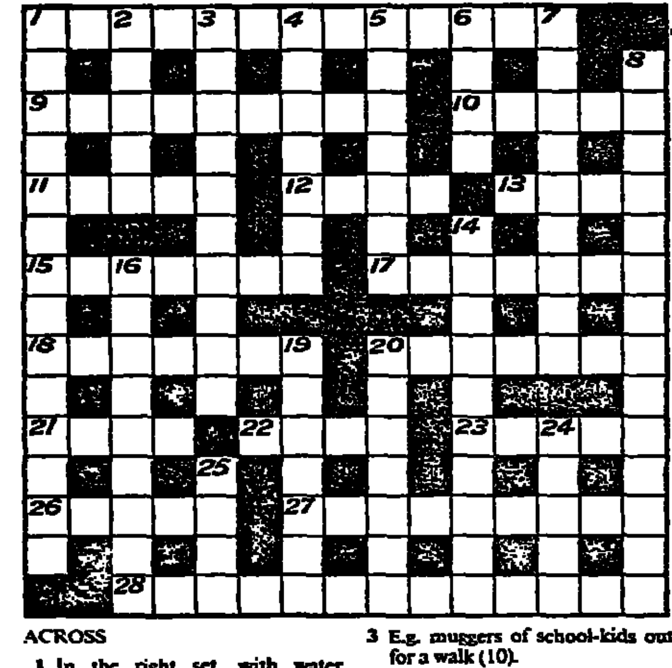
Recital by Salomon String Quartet, St Austell Arts Centre, Truro Road, 8.

Concert by Halle Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham, 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra with John Williams, Festival Theatre, Paignton, 7.30.

King's School Concert, St Nicholas Church, Rochester, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,284



ACROSS

1 In the right set, with water supply ensured? (4,9).
9 Play, unrehearsed, is better outside (9).
10 After short time, supply tea or coffee (5).
11 Chap will ring – and probably hear this (5).
12 Bit of news producing some excitement (4).
13 Girl of 19 (4).
15 Making cuts in private education here? (7).
17 Illustrator requires lenient treatment (7).
18 Split up FBI agents in group (7).
20 Foul-spoken method of preparation for battle (7).
21 Observe Lawrence's initial disappearance (4).
22 Hide swindle (4).
23 Relatively close finisher of game? (5).
26 Vehicle resentfully withdrawn (5).
27 Grandiose trip arranged (9).
28 WWII plane has to *climb* – doesn't go above Hurricane (8, 5).

DOWN

1 State of the floating pound? (14).
2 See one learner copy another, making part of coat (5).
3 E.g. muggers of school-kids out for a walk (10).
4 Such a striking activity is *catching* (7).
5 It would be most ingenious to get 150 over this mountain (7).
6 12 changes in sentence (4).
7 Commands for volunteers, in a manner of speaking (9).
8 Decisive defeat at game between London banks (8,6).
14 In US money, about a third of remaining profits (10).
16 Place of entertainment for one in evening suit? (5,4).
19 Opposite of a landing strip (4-3).
20 One who looks after silver in half-hearted fashion? (7).
24 Opera – turning up thus in third part of it (5).
25 Not the contrary girl who arranges army quarters (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,283

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Food prices

Supplies of home-produced lamb have improved and prices have eased; whole legs cost £1.28 to £1.60 a pound in Dewhurst shops, and whole shoulders 75p to 99p. Tesco have New Zealand shoulder at 68p and chops at 98p a pound, and Sainsburys have New Zealand leg at £1.09. Beef and pork prices remain stable: topside and silverside range from £1.88 to £2.35 a pound, with minced beef in Sainsburys and Fine Fare at 89p and brisket in Tesco at £1.58. Whole legs of pork are 88p to £1.20 a pound, loin chops £1.13 to £1.40 and boneless shoulder 90p to £1.30. Marks and Spencer have excellent chickens reduced to 69p s pound and fresh duck at 93p.

Continuing good weather has meant abundant supplies of fish: cod and haddock fillets average £1.29 and £1.32 a pound respectively; plaice £1.51, herring 66p and mackerel 47p.

Best vegetable buys this week include super quality Brussesl sprouts at 20-30p a pound, *cauliflower 30-48p each*, leeks 28-40p a pound. Parsnips at 14-25p a pound, carrots 8-16p, swedes 12-16p and turnips 12-18p are all good *quality and value*.

Grapes remain a wonderful buy: Italian and Spanish white Italia 50-70p a pound, Spanish Almeria 30-35p. Cox's apples are 25-45p a pound, Russets 28-38p, French, Italian and Dutch Golden Delicious 22-30p. New season Spanish Navelina oranges are 10-22p each, and juicy, seedless satsumas 20-25p a pound for small sizes, 28-35p for larger ones.

Christmas post

Monday, November 14, is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas cards and parcels being sent by ship to Malta and Gibraltar, and also to the Azores, Canary Islands, Cape Verde, Italy, Madeira, Portugal and Spain.

A leaflet, "Overseas Christmas Mail 1983" is available free from post offices.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.68	1.60
Austria Sch	29.00	27.40
Belgium Fr	84.00	80.00
Canada $	1.89	1.82
Denmark Kr	14.77	14.07
Finland Mkk	8.82	8.42
France Fr	12.38	11.88
Germany DM	4.09	3.90
Greece Dr	155.00	147.00
Hongkong $	11.85	11.25
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.26
Italy Lira	2475.00	2365.00
Japan Yen	364.00	346.00
Netherlands Gld	4.60	4.37
Norway Kr	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	205.00	191.00
South Africa Rd	1.80	1.67
Spain Pta	236.50	227.50
Sweden Kr	12.14	11.57
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA $	1.53	1.48
Yugoslavia Dnr	223.00	208.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 339.5.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 1.2 at 720.6.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Video Recordings Bill, second reading.

Anniversaries

Births: Louis-Antoine de Bougainville, navigator, Paris, 1729; Fydor Dostoyevsky (old style October 30), Moscow, 1821; Edouard Vuillard, painter, Cuiseaux, France, 1868. The Allies and Germany signed an armistice, 1918. King George V unveiled the Cenotaph in Whitehall and an Unknown Warrior was buried in Westminster Abbey, 1920.



Roads

London and South-east: A40: New layout on Western Avenue between Horsenden Lane and Medway Parade; long delays. A12: One lane northbound on Brentwood bypass, Essex. A320: Resurfacing on Woking Road, Guildford; and Stoke Road is closed southbound.

Wales and West: A429: Temporary signals Cirencester to Bourton, Gloucester, on North Leach bypass. A46 delays in High Street and Gloucester Street, Stroud. A31: Roadworks at Bere Regis to Ringwood Road. A1 temporary signals in working hours at Henbury; restrictions at Wimborne; single lane only at St Ives.

Midlands and East Anglia: A1: One carriageway shared N of Norman Cross, *Cambridgeshire* (Junction with A15) A1: Lanes closed at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire. A34: Roadworks at Henley-in-Arden High Street.

North: M1: Southbound carriageway shared between junctions 38 and 39 (Huddersfield to Wakefield). *A1: One lane, temporary* lights at Felton bypass on River Coquet bridge, Northumberland. A523: Diversion N of Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Scotland. M74: Lanes closed on sliproads at junction 4 (Motherwell), Strathclyde. A74: Westbound carriageway shared on London Road, Lanarkshire; seek alternative routes. A82: Lanes closed on Great Western Road, Glasgow, near Cromwell Street.

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

The Sun comments: "November 11 is the exact anniversary of the armistice of 1918, when the sacrifice of our fighting men and women brought us victory, gave peace to the world and saved our freedom. It is the symbol of our debt to all our forces . . . Is there any real reson why we should not name November 11 as Armistice Day again – and leave the people to keep and cherish it as they choose?"

Top films

Top box office films in London:

1 (1) The Jungle Book / Mickey's Christmas Carol
2 (2) La Traviata
3 (–) The Star Chamber
4 (3) Zelig
5 (5) Class
6 (9) Betrayal
7 (4) Octopussy
8 (7) Staying Alive
9 (8) National Lampoon's Vacation
10 (–) Exposed

Top five in the provinces:

1 Blue Thunder
2 The Boys In Blue
3 Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence
4 Herbie Rides Again
5 Porky's II: The Next Day

Top video rentals

1 First Blood (Thorn EMI)
2 Firefox (Warner)
3 Blade Runner (Warner)
4 10 to Midnight (Guild)
5 The Beastmaster (Thorn EMI)
6 Class of 1984 (Thorn EMI)
7 Who Dares Wins (Rank)
8 Basket Case (Palace)
9 Bad Boys (Thorn EMI)
10 Grease II (CIC)

Supplied by *Video Business*

Weather forecast

A frontal trough will clear slowly from SW Britain.

6am to midnight

London, SE England, E Midlands: Mist clearing, sunny intervals, perhaps a little rain at first; wind E, light; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

East Anglia, E, Central N England: Fog patches clearing slowly, sunny intervals; wind light; max 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Island, Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Mainly cloudy, rain, brighter intervals later; wind SE, moderate to fresh; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

W Midlands, NW England, Lake District: Cloudy, bright intervals, perhaps a little rain at times; wind E to SE, moderate; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Dull, misty, fog patches and drizzle persisting in places; wind E, light; max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

SW, NW Scotland, Argyll: Dry, sunny intervals; wind E, moderate; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny intervals; wind E, light to moderate; max 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Little change; becoming colder with night frost later in places.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind E, light or moderate; sea slight. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SE, light or moderate; sea slight. St George's Channel: Wind SE, moderate or fresh, becoming light; sea moderate, becoming slight. Irish Sea: Wind SE, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 7.11am	Sun sets: 4.18pm
Moon rises: 1.27pm	Moon sets: 9.35pm

First Quarter Tomorrow

Lighting-up time

London 4.48 pm to 6.42 am
Bristol 4.58 pm to 6.52 am
Edinburgh 4.43 pm to 7.12 am
Manchester 4.49 pm to 6.58 am
Penzance 5.14 pm to 6.59 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

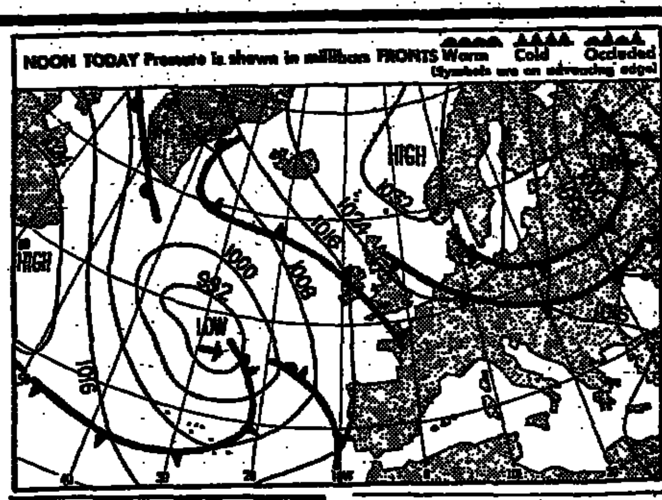
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	14	57	Guernsey	s	15	59
Birmingham	c	10	50	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	s	13	55	Jersey	s	15	59
Bristol	s	12	54	London	s	14	57
Cardiff	s	11	52	Manchester	f	12	54
Edinburgh	d	9	48	Newcastle	d	10	50
Glasgow	s	11	52	Ronaldsway	f	14	57

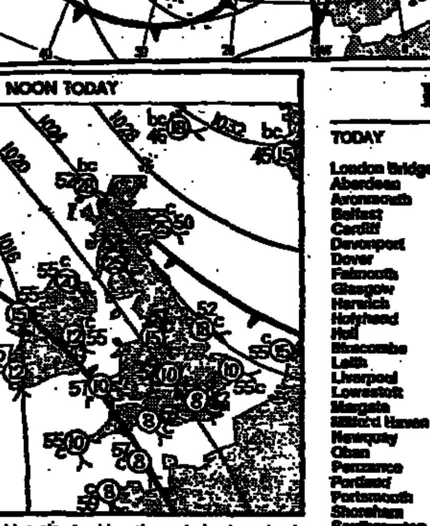
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 17C (63F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Humidity: 6 pm, 68 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.00in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 6.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1019.2 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Eskmeals, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Lerwick, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Wick 0.03in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis 7.7hr.





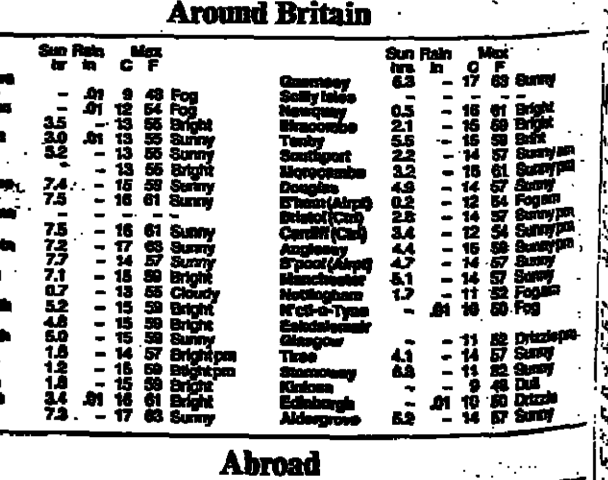
b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.19	6.2	5.54	6.2
Aberdeen	5.19	3.5	5.15	3.6
Avonmouth	10.41	10.4	11.01	9.9
Belfast	3.03	3.1	3.17	3.3
Cardiff	10.24	9.7	10.44	9.2
Devonport	9.07	4.8	9.37	4.4
Dover	2.29	5.9	2.51	5.6
Falmouth	8.37	4.6	9.07	4.2
Glasgow	4.17	4.5	4.37	4.7
Harwich	3.18	3.6	3.54	3.5
Holyhead	2.02	4.5	2.18	4.7
Hull	10.14	5.8	10.13	6.1
Ilfracombe	9.35	7.4	9.58	6.9
Leith	6.42	4.6	6.55	4.5
Liverpool	2.43	7.4	3.04	7.8
Lowestoft	12.24	2.4	1.38	2.1
Margate	3.22	4.3	4.2	4.2
Milford Haven	9.59	5.7	10.21	6.3
Newquay	8.54	5.8	9.17	5.4
Oban	9.22	3.2	9.25	2.9
Penzance	8.15	4.8	8.47	4.4
Portland	9.59	1.8	10.19	1.4
Portsmouth	3.11	4.1	3.15	4.0
Shoreham	2.35	5.3	2.50	5.1
Southampton	2.40	3.8	2.48	3.7
Swansea	9.59	8.0	10.20	7.5
Tees	7.48	4.5	7.54	4.6
Walton-on-Naze	3.05	3.7	3.42	3.7

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.



Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
St Andrews					
Scarboro	–	.01	9	48	Fog
Bridlington	–	.01	12	54	Fog
Cromer	3.5	–	13	55	Bright
Lowestoft	3.0	.01	13	55	Sunny
Clacton	5.2	–	13	55	Sunny
Margate	–	–	13	55	Bright
Folkestone	7.4	–	15	59	Sunny
Hastings	7.5	–	16	61	Sunny
Eastbourne	–	–	–	–	–
Worthing	7.5	–	16	61	Sunny
Littlehampton	7.2	–	17	63	Sunny
Bognor R	7.7	–	14	57	Sunny
Southsea	7.1	–	15	59	Bright
Shanklin	0.7	–	13	55	Cloudy
Bournemouth	5.2	–	15	59	Bright
Poole	4.8	–	15	59	Bright
Weymouth	5.0	–	15	59	Sunny
Exmouth	1.8	–	14	57	Bright pm
Torquay	1.2	–	15	59	Bright pm
Falmouth	1.8	–	15	59	Bright
Penzance	3.4	.01	16	61	Bright
Jersey	7.3	–	17	63	Sunny
Guernsey	6.3	–	17	63	Sunny
Scilly Isles	–	–	–	–	–
Newquay	0.5	–	16	61	Bright
Ilfracombe	2.1	–	15	59	Bright
Tenby	5.5	–	15	59	Sunny
Southport	2.2	–	14	57	Sunny am
Morecambe	3.2	–	16	61	Sunny pm
Douglas	4.9	–	14	57	Sunny
B'ham (Airpt)	0.2	–	12	54	Fog am
Bristol (Ctr)	2.8	–	14	57	Sunny pm
Cardiff (Ctr)	3.4	–	12	54	Sunny pm
Anglesey	4.4	–	15	59	Sunny pm
B'pool (Airpt)	4.7	–	14	57	Sunny
Manchester	5.1	–	14	57	Sunny
Nottingham	1.7	–	11	52	Fog am
N'cstl-u-Tyne	–	.01	10	50	Fog
Eskdalemuir					
Glasgow	–	–	11	52	Drizzle pm
Tiree	4.1	–	14	57	Sunny
Stornoway	6.8	–	11	52	Sunny
Kinloss	–	–	9	48	Dull
Edinburgh	–	.01	10	50	Drizzle
Aldergrove	5.2	–	14	57	Sunny

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; th, thunderstorm.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	20	68	Copenhgn	c	9	48	Majorca	c	15	59	Rio de Jan*	f	25	77
Akrotiri	s	22	72	Corfu	s	21	70	Malaga	f	20	68	Rome	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alexandria	s	26	79	Dallas*	c	10	50	Malta	f	20	68	Salzburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	f	24	75	Dublin	c	13	55	Melbourne	c	14	57	Sao Paulo*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	s	14	57	Dubrovnik	f	18	64	Mexico C*	d	15	59	S Francisco*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Athens	f	16	61	Faro	f	20	68	Miami*	f	28	82	Santiago*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bahrain	s	26	79	Florence	s	14	57	Milan	s	8	46	Seoul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados*	f	29	84	Frankfurt	c	3	37	Montreal*	f	10	50	Singapore	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	th	18	64	Funchal	c	19	66	Moscow	c	2	36	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut				Geneva	c	6	43	Munich	c	2	36	Strasbourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belgrade	d	6	43	Gibraltar	f	19	66	Nairobi	f	27	81	Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	fg	7	45	Helsinki				Naples	s	17	63	Tangier	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda*	s	23	73	Hongkong	f	27	81	New Delhi	s	23	73	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	c	15	59	Innsbruck	s	11	52	New York*	s	18	64	Tenerife	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boulogne	s	16	61	Istanbul	c	11	52	Nice	s	18	64	Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bordeaux	c	19	66	Jeddah				Oslo	s	4	39	Toronto*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	s	13	55	Jo'burg	f	26	79	Ottawa				Tunis	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budapest	c	4	39	Karachi*	s	28	82	Paris	s	15	59	Valencia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Buen Aires*	th	24	75	Las Palmas	s	24	75	Peking*	c	11	52	Vancouver*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cairo	f	27	81	Lisbon	f	17	63	Perth	s	27	81	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cape Tn	c	18	64	Locarno	s	12	54	Prague	fg	3	37	Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C'blanca	f	22	72	L Angeles*	f	20	68	Reykjavik	c	4	39	Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chicago*	c	13	55	Luxembg	fg	3	37	Rhodes	r	16	59	Washington*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cologne	s	11	52	Madrid	f	14	57	Riyadh	s	32	90	Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available